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Pioneering the hectic tourism of Taiwan

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The man who was a hero for Hemingway

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Louise Brooks, downfall of a pleasure-seeker

LAST MONTH'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 435,000

No 63,650

THE TIMES

30p

SATURDAY MARCH 10 1990

Tories rally in support of Thatcher

Rumours dismissed as City gets jitters

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Senior Tory MPs yesterday rallied to support the Prime Minister as jitters about her position as leader helped to undermine the pound and forced aides at No 10 to quash City rumours that she had resigned.

Throughout the day, anxious callers telephoned her office and the media to check if the resignation rumours were true.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, in an effort to calm a nervous party and the financial markets, denied that there had been *discussion at Cabinet level* about Mrs Thatcher stepping down in favour of an agreed replacement. He dismissed speculation about a change of leadership as having no substance.

And in Scotland, where she is on a two day visit, the Prime Minister denied speculation that there was anxiety among her Cabinet colleagues over the Government's political fortunes. "I find no nervousness in the Cabinet at all," she said in an interview with BBC Scotland. "I think we have the most united and co-operative Cabinet I've ever had during my whole term."

The pound yesterday registered its second biggest fall since the resignation of the former Chancellor Mr Nigel Lawson, with a drop of 1.1 in the Bank of England's effective rate index to 86.6. Against the dollar it was down 2.70 cents by late afternoon to $1.6165, compared with its previous close, and down 3.95 pfennigs against the mark to DM2.7545.....Page 19

Loyalist MPs see the latest round of speculation about Mrs Thatcher's position as inevitable given the decline in the Government's fortunes, its low level in the opinion polls and the immediate difficulties it is facing over implementing the community charge.

Moreover the Government has been under strong attack from all sides of the Commons this week over its response to the DTI report into the Fayed brothers takeover of Harrods and the House of Fraser.

Sir Geoffrey, the deputy Prime Minister, said that the party's standing in the opinion polls had not dropped as low as it had during the last two Parliaments. He said: "We have to keep our nerve and make sure we are applying ourselves with the right determination to explaining policies which are essentially the right policies."

Asked whether there had been discussions about the possibility of Mrs Thatcher standing down in favour of an agreed candidate, Sir Geoffrey said: "No. There has been no suggestion of that at Cabinet level."

He said rumours about a change of leader had resurfaced every year or two for the last 11 years. "There is no substance in it."

A spokesman at No 10 described the rumours, which started in the Far East, as "typical bunkum and balderdash".

Despite Sir Geoffrey's efforts the City remained nervous and by the end of trading the pound had fallen three cents against the dollar.

Although the Prime Minister is under pressure from even some of her supporters on the right wing of the party she is unlikely to give up the leadership without a fight. Her opponents are also hampered by the lack of an obvious agreed successor; and the prospect of a strongly fought contest for the leadership could damage the party further.

At Westminster it was said that the interests of several potential successors to Mrs Thatcher would be best served *if she continued in office until* after the next election, giving them more experience.

Mr Michael Heseltine, whose leadership bandwagon is taking him across the country addressing countless Conservative assocation meetings, said he did not think there would be a challenge to Mrs Thatcher's position. "There is no contest. There is no likelihood of a contest. We should concentrate on putting over our policies."

In Scotland, at the end of another bad week for the Government, Mrs Thatcher rounded on critics of the community charge from within her own party in typically robust fashion.

She said those who had spoken of the charge as "political cyanide" were incorrect and blamed some of the opposition on the fact that she was a woman.

If some of the decisions she had taken had been made by a man the reaction would have been "my goodness, great leadership, courageous, just what we expect of a leader".

In today's 64-page Times

Rain causes Test doubt

Heavy rain has saturated the pitch in Georgetown, Guyana, and is certain to delay the start today of the second cricket between West Indies and England at Bourda. England lead the series 1-0 after winning in Jamaica.....Page 51

Margulies out

Berisford, British Sugar's parent group, said it is in takeover talks which could lead to a bid. At the same time Berisford also revealed that Mr Ephraim Margulies, the chairman, had resigned.....Page 19

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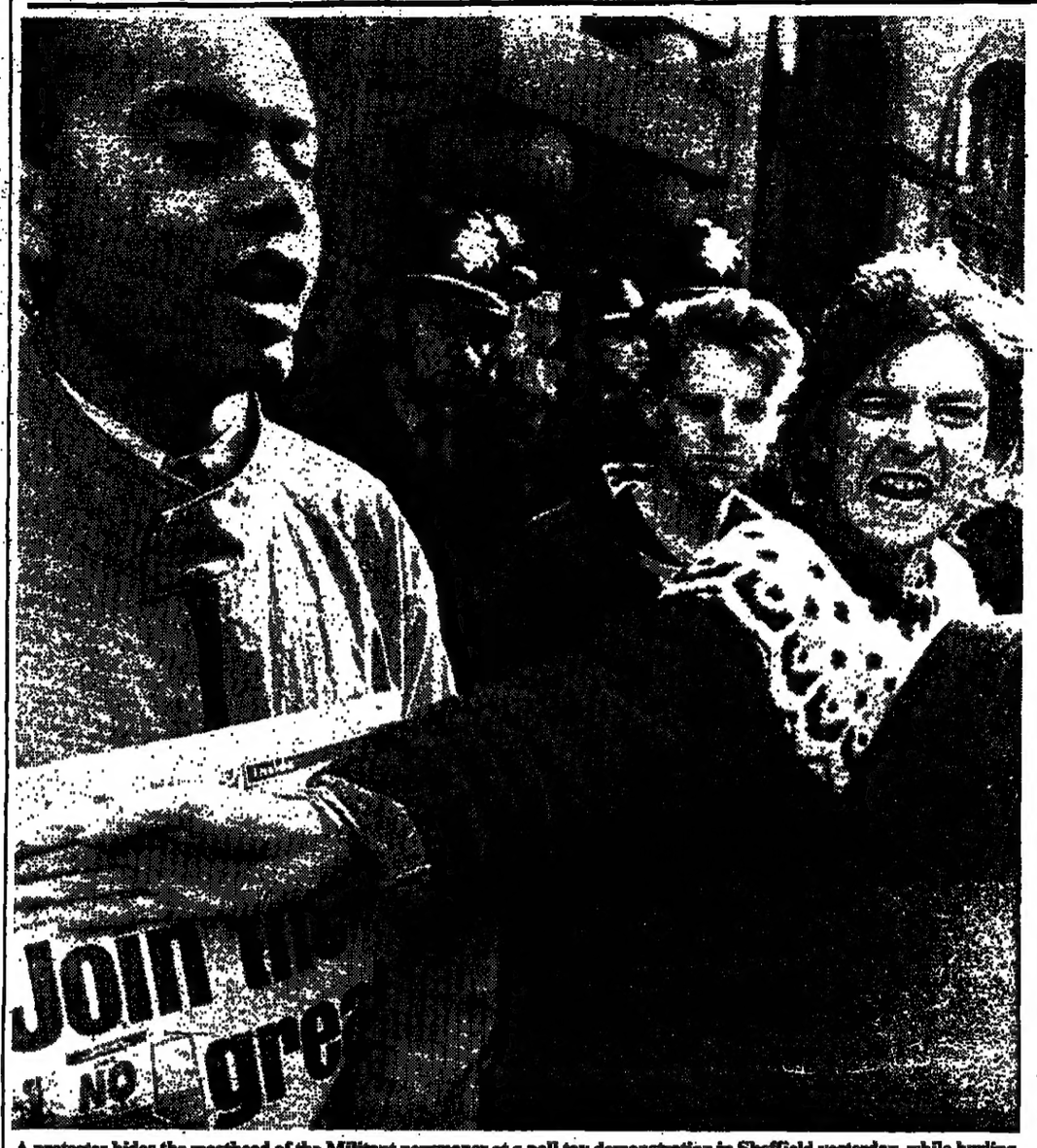
Face of protest behind the hand of Militant



A protester hides the masthead of the Militant newspaper at a poll tax demonstration in Sheffield yesterday, while hurling abuse — and later a blow — at Marc Aspland, a photographer for *The Times*. Full reports and photographs, page 4

Shopkeepers fear more looting

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

Sheffield councillors were locked inside their chamber yesterday while a 1,500-strong demonstration tried to force their meeting to be abandoned. There were skirmishes as a hundred police officers moved in to disperse the crowd. Some were attacked with missiles of flour, red pepper and eggs, but there were no arrests.

Shopkeepers in areas of south London closed and boarded up their shops on police advice early last night as two more councils met to debate or fix the poll tax.

Scotland Yard said substantial reserves would be ready for any repeat of the violence seen at Hackney on Thursday when a crowd of up to 5,000 fought police.

Hundreds of officers were expected to be on standby after extra officers had to be drafted to Hackney when trouble broke out there.

Both Lambeth and Southwark councils were due to meet and staff at both town halls were sent home early as preparations were made for potentially heated meetings.

In Brixton shopkeepers were urged by police not to leave valuables on display. Nalgo had called for a demonstration outside the town hall in case of job cuts.

Kinnock attacks 'toytown' rebels

By Sheila Gunn, Nigel Williamson and Stewart Tendler

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday branded extremists who resort to violent protests against the community charge as "toytown revolutionaries" playing straight into the hands of the Government.

In the wake of the latest and most vicious scenes around the country's town halls the Labour leader also laid down the law to his own MPs who plan to refuse to pay the new tax, accusing them of "luxurious self-righteousness". The Labour Party will not, he said, play "fast and loose" with democracy.

There were signs yesterday that some of the 31 MPs who have backed the "don't pay" campaign are paying heed. Three of them, including the two Hackney MPs, Mr Brian Sedgemore and Ms Diane Abbott, said yesterday that they would be paying their poll tax. Ms Abbott agreed with Mr Kinnock that it would be irresponsible to encourage others not to pay.

Mr Kinnock's attack on the extreme left, made at the annual conference of the Scottish Labour party, came as London police counted the cost of the riot outside Hackney Town Hall on Thursday, when between 3,000 and 5,000 demonstrators clashed with police in the largest incident yet produced by the controversy over the tax.

Yesterday the first of 60 people arrested during the riot — in which 33 people were injured — appeared before a London magistrate as police geared themselves up for the possibility of fresh trouble in south London. Two other councils were due to debate or set poll taxes.

Last night the highest poll tax believed yet to have been set was fixed by Haringey council at £572 after five hours of debate. Earlier this week the council halted debate after a stormy meeting.

Continued on page 18, col 6

NUM probe into Scargill claims

By Peter Davenport

An independent inquiry is to be set up by the National Union of Mineworkers to investigate allegations about Mr Arthur Scargill, its president, and secret Libyan funds.

The decision was taken yesterday at a meeting of the union's national executive committee.

However, there was no discussion about any possible libel action by Mr Scargill, or by Mr Peter Heathfield, the union's general secretary, against the *Daily Mirror* or Central Television's *Cook Report*, which made the allegations earlier this week.

It is understood the committee was shown documents which Mr Scargill said supported his case that the allegations were unfounded.

However, the union issued only a brief statement. It said: "The national executive committee at its meeting on March 9, 1990, unanimously accept the recommendations of the national officials to appoint an independent inquiry into the allegation made by Central Television and the Mirror Group of Newspapers against the national officials.

"The NEC agree that the inquiry should consist of an eminent QC whose terms of reference shall be to investigate the allegations made by Central Television and Mirror Group Newspapers in respect of the national officials' accepting money alleged to have come from Libya in December, 1984, and Soviet finances alleged to have come into the funds of the NUM, and the allegation that in December, 1984, the officials used money alleged to have come from Libya to pay off personal mortgages/loans."

Central TV said it was not worried by the decision.

UK company sought to manage Gadaffi plant

By David Sapsted and Alan George

An Iraqi engineer who helped set up the Libyan factory which the West claims is producing chemical weapons, admitted yesterday that he was still involved with the installation and was negotiating with a top British firm to manage it.

Dr Ihsan Barbouti, a London-based businessman who works from an office in Chelsea, has consistently supported the claim of Colonel Gadaffi, the Libyan leader, that the so-called Technology Centre is producing only pharmaceuticals.

"I am not 100 per cent but 200 per cent sure that these reports are nothing," Dr Barbouti, aged 62, said, dismissing claims from Washington, Bonn and London that the factory at Rabta has been producing mustard gas and the nerve agent Sarin.

"As far as I know, the plant is not complete," he added.

Full report.....9

Tehran pokes fun at Bush hoax call

President Bush: Decided to make the call to hoaxer

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Iran moved quickly yesterday to make diplomatic capital out of Washington's embarrassing admission that President Bush discussed the position of the US hostages in Lebanon with a telephone hoaxer purporting to be the President of Iran.

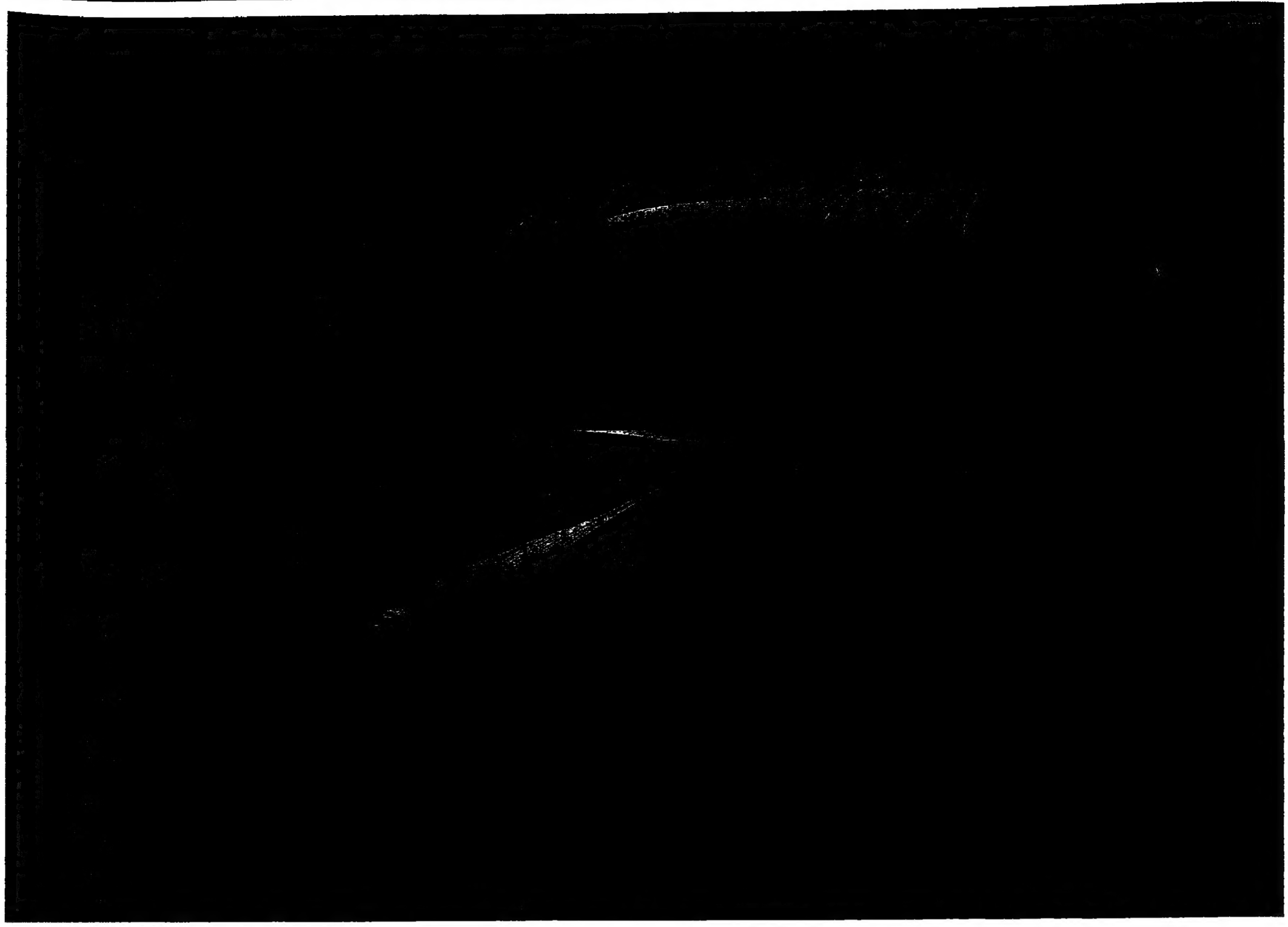
The hoax call from a so far unidentified individual was made about a month ago and went first to a senior member of the US National Security Council. "The call came in, a number was given for us to call. We were suspicious and began checking," Mr Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman said. "But ultimately, the President needed to make the call as part of the check. He did make the call."

During Friday prayers broadcast by Tehran Radio, President Rafsanjani boasted that Mr Bush had been trying to telephone him for a month, without success. He claimed that the episode underlined the "confused policy" of the White House and the ineptitude of US intelligence, which could not identify who the US President was talking to.

"America is very much in need of talking to Iran and, praise be to God, is deprived of this"; he said in a sermon. "Iran is so important that the biggest power in the world, the biggest bully on Earth tried to contact its officials by telephone. Watch out for their explanations. A new Irangate is unfolding in Washington."

Mr Fitzwater and other White House officials said that President Bush placed the call after a man identifying himself as an Iranian government official called the White House to say that President Rafsanjani wanted to talk to Mr Bush about the hostages.

White House officials refused to answer further questions about the affair.



SIX LAYERS OF PAINT PROLONG THE LIFE OF THE CAR. A SEVENTH PROLONGS THE LIFE OF THE DRIVER.

The engineers at BMW had a clear vision of what they wanted to achieve with the 5 Series.

Namely, clear vision for the driver, whatever the conditions.

With this in mind, they devised a unique rain simulation experiment.

During wind tunnel tests on the car, at the development stage, water was added.

And an all too familiar aspect of British weather was recreated at a single stroke.

The rain was impregnated with a special fluorescent paint and blown over the car.

Using ultra-violet light, the engineers were able to record the pattern of rain dispersal.

What they found was that the wipers cleared the windscreen perfectly well.

And the aerodynamic design of the car filtered most of the rain away.

But, to be honest, not all.

In fact, what rain was left stayed mainly on the side windows.

So a little lateral thinking was called for.

The specially designed rain traps around the windscreen and the door mirror housings were modified until rain was successfully deflected clear of the side windows.

Another ingenious development is BMW's wiper system, fitted to the 530i and 535i.

When driving at speed, the engineers noted that headwinds and crosswinds caused the blades to lift off the windscreen.

To remedy this, they designed a motor in the driver's wiper pivot that increases pressure on the screen as the car increases its speed.

So there is no lift off during take off.

But there's further evidence of BMW's enlightened attitude towards safety; every model is fitted with ellipsoid headlights.

They don't reflect the light in the way that a conventional headlight does.

They project it through a special lens.

Which means they're 30% brighter and better directed so as not to blind oncoming drivers, while minimising back glare in fog.

One more dazzling feature is the anti-dazzle rear view mirror.

So called because it dips automatically should a car approach from behind with all lights blazing.

Once the light values are back to normal, the mirror simply adjusts back.

Thus preventing the driver being blinded by anything but science.

All things considered, you can be sure of one thing in your BMW.

Whatever the conditions, the outlook will always be bright and clear.

THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE

CAR SHOWN: BMW 520iSE COSTS £19,925. PRICES CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. INCLUDE CAR TAX AND VAT AND FREE 1200 MILE SERVICE BUT NOT DELIVERY OR NUMBER PLATES. AUTOMATIC DIPPING INTERIOR MIRROR AVAILABLE AS AN OPTION ON ALL 5 SERIES MODELS COST £102 INCLUSIVE DELIVERY CHARGE INCORPORATING BMW EMERGENCY SERVICE. £257 + VAT. ALL CURRENT MODELS (EXCEPT M635CSi) CAN TAKE UNLEADED FUEL WITH NO MODIFICATION. FOR A BMW 5 SERIES INFORMATION FILE WRITE TO: BMW INFORMATION SERVICE, PO BOX 46, HOUNSLOW, MIDDX OR TEL: 01-897 6665 (LITERATURE REQUESTS ONLY) FOR TAX FREE SALES PHONE 01 629 9277

Office of Fair Trading proposals to restore confidence

Rogue estate agencies face tough laws

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Tough laws to protect the public from unscrupulous estate agents and restore confidence in the industry are called for in a report by Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, published yesterday.

He calls on ministers at the Department of Trade and Industry to extend the Trade Descriptions Act to cover property sales.

However, because more urgent action is necessary, he suggests a range of misdemeanours should be included in regulations under the Estate Agents Act. This means that for the first time firms could be banned for the way they operate, rather than for criminal offences.

Sir Gordon said that consumers needed more protection immediately. "I have been examining estate agency in detail for more than two years. During that time there has been widespread criticism of estate agents who, as a result, have an unenviable public image — which is unfortunate for those practitioners who conduct themselves honourably and ethically."

He said he was convinced steps should be taken to ensure that the public was not harmed by malpractice. "It seems to me that the best way of helping consumers in the short term is a small but effective package of statutory obligations, targeted on specific abuses."

Sir Gordon was asked to discuss a code of practice with estate agents by Mr. Eric Forth, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Industry and Consumer Affairs. He was also asked to examine the possibility of extending the Trade Descriptions Act and strengthening the use of the Estate Agents Act.

Leading article 13
Family Money 26

He published a consultation paper last September, but the latest report lists his firm recommendations.

The Government is likely to accept the measures for regulations under the Estate Agents Act. Extending the Trade Descriptions Act will need legislation, and Sir Gordon says this should be done "as and when legislative time becomes available".

Sir Gordon says "health warnings" should be included in estate agents' contracts to explain obscure terms, such as "sole selling rights", with advice that parties should not sign unless they agree to such terms.

Agents who give misleading descriptions should be warned or banned for persistent offences under the Estate Agents Act until the Trade Descriptions Act is amended to extend to property.

There should be a ban on estate agents who push up prices on the basis of false information that a higher competing offer has been received.

Sir Gordon says agents should be discouraged from trying to pressurize purchasers into using other services, such as a mortgage or insurance, and from discriminating against them if they do not.

Estate agents should be required to disclose in writing the fact that they or associates are involved in buying or selling a property. The report proposes that information about estate agents' commission and other charges should always be given in writing, and additional offences should be taken into account in deciding whether to ban individual agents from practising.

Sir Gordon does not support the introduction of minimum competence standards for estate agents. He argues that most complaints about agents concern ethical standards and not professional competence. Mr Nigel Griffiths, Labour spokesman on consumer affairs, called for the immediate implementation of the recommendations by the secretary of state.

"I also want him to undertake that he will not hesitate to introduce licensing to crack down on irresponsible agents if the sharp practices continue," Mr Griffiths said.

A joint statement from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers applauded the report for recommending that estate agents should be subject to the Trade Descriptions Act.

It also welcomed the proposals to prevent estate agents from pressurizing consumers to accept other services in "tie-in" sales.

The two groups were disappointed, however, that the Office of Fair Trading was not persuaded to impose minimum standards of competence for agents. "It has therefore missed the opportunity of bringing under control the fringe cowboy element."

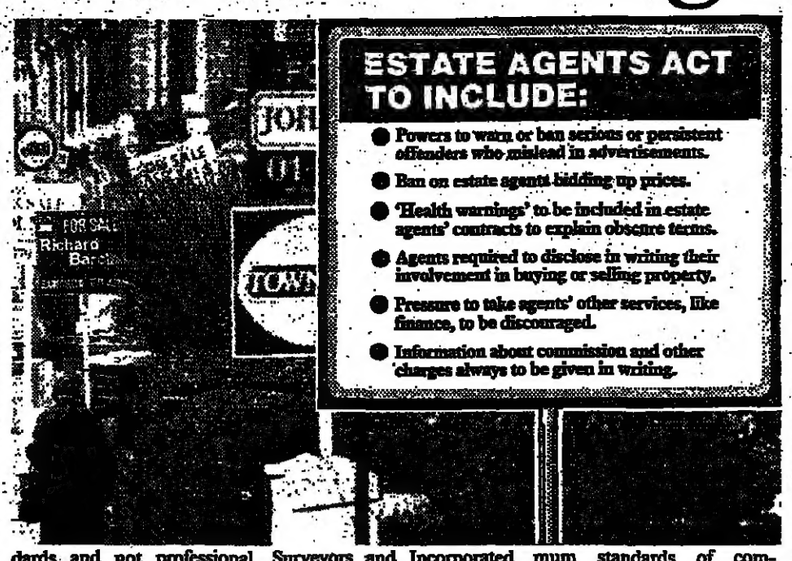
The National Consumer Council, one of the bodies most critical of agents, has also welcomed the report. "We hope that the Government will act quickly to stamp out dubious practices by a minority of cowboy agencies."

The National Association of Estate Agents said the report had struck the right balance between commercial flexibility and consumer protection.

The Office of Fair Trading report comes in the wake of severe criticism of estate agents from consumer bodies. Last month, the National Consumer Council asked for life bans on agents who trick clients; and a report by the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* described ways in which some agents were allegedly cheating their customers.

The director-general had hoped that a voluntary code of conduct within the industry could be established, but no agreement was reached. The report states: "Clearly there is no immediate prospect that participants in this highly fragmented industry can agree on the content and enforcement of a voluntary code and consumer redress scheme".

Sir Gordon said: "I regret this, but the matter is essentially in the industry's own hands." He said, however, that he was willing to discuss with the industry any reasonable proposals for a voluntary code and redress scheme, provided these extended across the whole sector. In the absence of agreement on a code, Sir Gordon has strengthened his recommendations under the Estate Agents Act.



ESTATE AGENTS ACT TO INCLUDE:

- Powers to warn or ban serious or persistent offenders who mislead in advertisements.
- Ban on estate agents bidding up prices.
- 'Health warnings' to be included in estate agents' contracts to explain obscure terms.
- Agents required to disclose in writing their involvement in buying or selling property.
- Pressure to take agents' other services, like finance, to be discouraged.
- Information about commission and other charges always to be given in writing.

Home-vending fraternity laments the demise of 'all mod cons'

By Robin Young

Estate agents' particulars may never be the same again. With their lingastic licence, always more prosaic than poetic, revoked once and for all, where will one find "a wealth of exposed beams", a "deceptively spacious bedroom", apartments "benefiting from their luxurious appointments", or houses "commanding superb and uninterrupted views"?

Estate agentese was the language everyone loved to loathe. Never a house by a railway track that was not "convenient for transport", nor a decrepit ruin that could not boast "genuine period charm". Really, it presented no problem for those who were experienced in the ways of the home-vending fraternity. "Handsome", for instance, as in "a handsome freehold shop premises", had a precise and exact meaning. It was "ugly".

Similarly, "period facade" meant "interior wrecked"; "carefully planned" indicated there was no room left for a cat, let alone for swinging it; "lovingly restored" meant flock wallpaper; and "period features" translated as draughts.

A corner shop and an off-licence became "extensive shopping facilities"; "in need of redecoration" meant previously squatted; and "in need of some attention" was fair warning that the place was structurally dangerous.

To tell the truth, the punters loved it. My own first house, on the main lorry route known as Balls Pond Road in Hackney, east London, came described as "on the borders of leafy Canonbury". The chutzpah of it still delights me.

But the rot had already set in. Not long ago the Advertising Standards Authority upheld a complaint against an advertisement for a development of flats and houses in Chiswick Place which described it as "nestled within Chiswick's rural landscape" on the nit-picking, pedantic grounds that it was actually beside a railway line and close to two main roads.

Estate agents took some pride in their profession's euphemisms. Mr Tony Halstead of the Roy Brooks agency had a favourite, for a house in Friern Barnet in north London. It was described as "directly abutting beautiful farmland". It was next to a sewage farm.

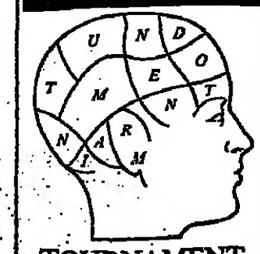
Mr Halstead compiled the works of the exceptional agent who made his reputation by defying the conventions. He collected the late Roy Brooks's advertisements from the '50s and '60s into two volumes. The titles give the flavour: *Brothel in Pimlico* and *Mud, Straw and Insults*.

A typical Brooks ad ran: "Fashionable Chelsea, Lamont Road. Do not be misled by the trim exterior of this modest Period Res. with its dirty broken windows; all is not well with the inside. The decor of the nine rooms, some of which hangs inelegantly from the walls, is revolting. Not entirely devoid of plumbing: there is a pathetic kitchen and one cold tap. No bathroom of course, but Chelsea has excellent public baths. The pockmarked basement flr indicates a thriving community of woodworm. Otherwise, there is not much wrong with the property." Other gems included "the filthiest house I have seen for a long time" and "Dirt cheap, bring your own torch".

That tradition is not quite dead. A recent list from Camden Bus in Camden Town, north London, offered one flat "ideal for troglodytes"; "a shoebox above video shop in Stroud Green" and "a squalid little two-bedroom ex-council flat in a grossly overpriced location, with a lived-in sort of kitchen and loud decoration".

But it is not quite the same as buying a "des. res. with all mod. cons", is it?

INSIDE



TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

● Today sees Round Five of *The Times* Tournament of the Mind, with prizes including £5,000 and a computer. And, for those who missed the earlier rounds, the first four are repeated on page 44

MONDAY

● Must businessmen choose between God and Mammon? Next week, a conference sponsored by *The Times* and the Comino Foundation will consider the question. And, starting on Monday, we will publish the three keynote papers

PORTFOLIO

Investment plan for £6,000 win

The winner of yesterday's £6,000 Portfolio Platinum prize, accumulated over three days, was Mrs Rosa Humby, of Broadstairs, Kent. "I was very lucky to scoop the jackpot — although I took it all in my stride," Mrs Humby said.

"I have done the competition every day since it started and never expected to win, despite coming close."

Mrs Humby intends to invest most of her windfall. "I don't know whether to buy shares or put it in the building society but my husband will take care of it.

Mother jailed for 'wicked' cruelty to son she rejected

By Craig Seton

A mother who locked her son aged 11 in a cold, dark attic for long periods was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment yesterday for her "wicked" cruelty.

Mr Geoffrey Kamil, the Wolverhampton stipendiary magistrate, said there had to be a custodial sentence after hearing evidence that the mother, aged 29, rejected the boy, one of her five children, and locked him in an attic "cell" used for keeping snakes and spiders as pets.

She had denied neglecting her son and assault causing actual bodily harm. She showed no emotion as she was sentenced. Her son is now in the care of the local authority.

Mr Kamil said her cruelty could have affected the boy for the rest of his life, and added: "You rejected him in favour of your other four children and condemned him to spend most of his time locked in a room constructed to keep snakes and spiders, in disgusting conditions."

He said the mother had shown no remorse, had concocted her defence and lied to the court. "You may have conned the authorities for years but you have not conned this court.

"It is hard to send a woman like you to prison but you have got to realize you cannot hide behind your children in a matter as serious and wicked as this. All offences against children are abhorrent to society," he added.

The court was told the boy was underweight when police and social workers visited his mother's council house in Wolverhampton after his teacher noticed his hands were bruised and his face puffy.

Although the other children in the house had clean and well-furnished rooms, he spent long periods in the attic. Evidence was given that the room smelt of urine and had a bed and sleeping blanket and a pot for a toilet.

The boy was made an outcast in the family. The court was told his mother's husband was not his natural father.

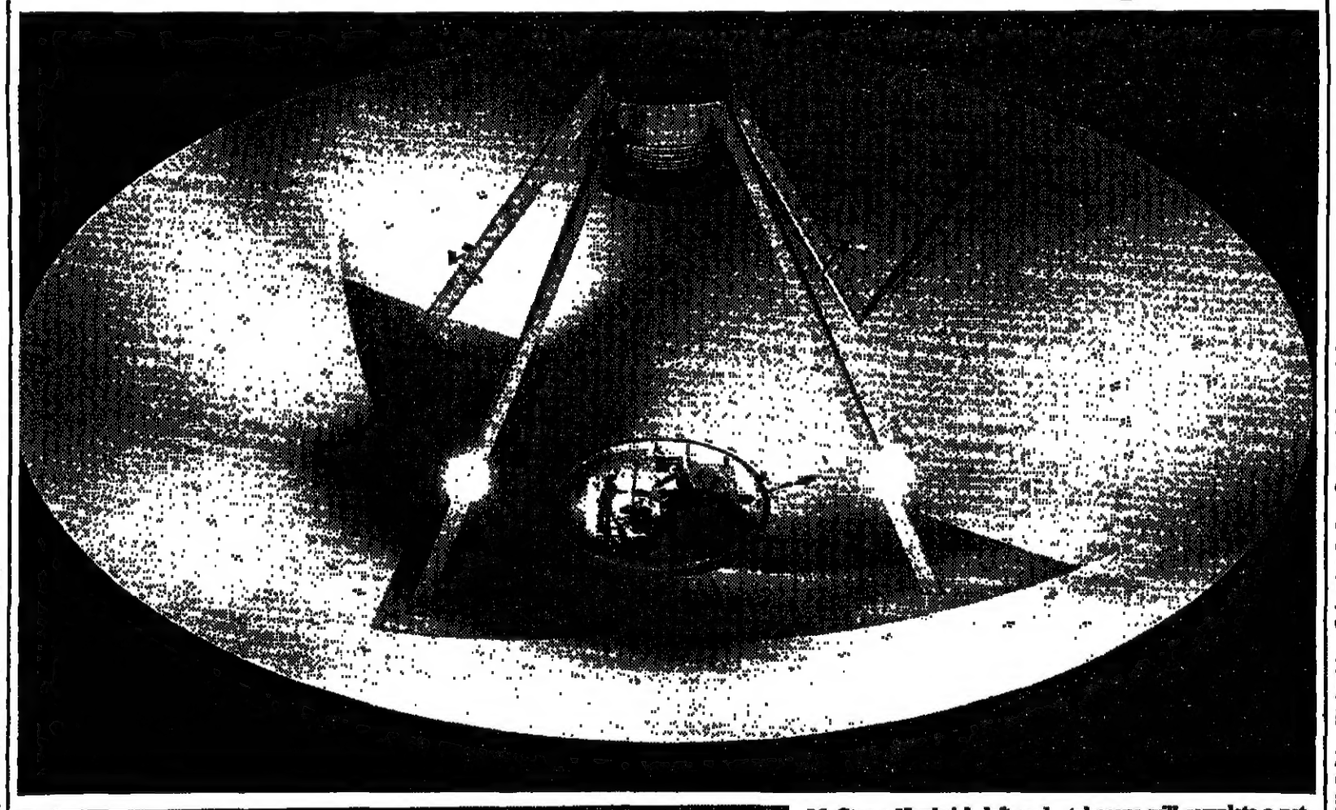
He gave evidence from behind a screen before the case was adjourned last week for sentencing. He told the magistrate his attic room had boards over the window to prevent him waving to his friends outside.

He never had meals with the family and was not given presents for his birthday or Christmas, which he spent in the attic while the others enjoyed themselves downstairs. He was allowed a light in the attic only when he did his homework. His mother would then remove the light bulb.

The mother had told the court her son was locked in the attic for only 10 minutes when he was naughty; she said he was treated no differently from her other children.

The court was told that since the boy was taken into care four months ago, his physical and mental state had improved. A full care hearing is to be heard next Friday.

A matter of millimetres for future star-gazers



Mr Steven Hardwick, left, and his brother Philip, construction engineers, working through the night to perfect the measurements of the new radio telescope being built at Lords Bridge, Cambridge.

The dish, made of several hundred aluminium plates independently mounted on a steel framework, has a diameter of 104 feet, but measurements must be exact to within one-tenth of a millimetre (Robin Young writes).

To do that, the men have to work several hours after sunset, when the dish has cooled to an even temperature after daytime sunshine.

When it is commissioned at the end of the year, the new telescope will complete a network of seven observatories, known as Project Merlin (or the British Multi-Element Radio-Linked Interferometer Network), doubling its base line to 200 km.

The project's present six telescopes were completed 10 years ago. The longer base lines will improve the resolution achieved through the system by a factor of four.

The telescope will also link Britain with Merlin's counterpart on the Continent, the European Very Long Base Interferometry system, enabling astronomers to look deep into the centre of distant galaxies and black holes.

Photographs: Peter Trievnor

Guinness man had qualms but kept silent

A Guinness financial director decided not to make his reservations known during the company's £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers after a discussion with his supervisor, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Simon Duffy, director of strategy and finance at the time of the 1986 takeover, said he had intended to speak to Sir Norman Macfarlane, a non-executive director. However, after a discussion with Mr Olivier Roux, the Guinness finance director, he had decided against it.

Mr Duffy told Southwark Crown Court he had become concerned about Guinness's relationship with a Swiss bank, Bank Leu, after reading a newspaper article. He had even thought of resigning.

However, Mr Roux, a key prosecution witness, had told him: "Can you say for sure there is anything wrong with all this?"

In addition, Sir Norman had seemed "in some difficulty emotionally". Mr Duffy said the Guinness bid for Distillers was "chaotic".

Mr Ernest Saunders, aged 54, the former Guinness chairman, Mr Gerald Ronson, aged 50, head of the Heron group; Mr Anthony Parnes, aged 44, a city stockbroker, and Sir Jack Lyons, aged 74, a financier, deny charges of theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

Mr Peter Keehan, a non-executive director of Guinness in 1986, told the court that he had received little information during the takeover battle against Argyll in 1986. Confronted, Mr Saunders had told him: "I had as much information as I needed."

The trial continues on Monday.

Protection racket trial

Undercover WPC feared for her life

An undercover detective said yesterday that she feared for her life when the alleged leader of a public house protection racket claimed she was a policewoman and produced a knife.

The policewoman, who was carrying two concealed tape recorders at the time, told the Central Criminal Court she decided then to give Frank Salmon £200 alleged protection money in marked notes.

"My fears were that Salmon would take my handbag and discover the tape and stab me," the woman police constable, giving evidence under a pseudonym, said. The tape of the alleged conversation was played to the court. Mr Salmon, aged 34, of Dagenham, east London, denies 16 charges, including four of blackmail, five of possessing firearms, two of affray, two of wounding, violent disorder, causing grievous bodily harm with intent and throwing corrosive liquid with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Also in the dock were: Stephen Mitchell, aged 25, unemployed, of Curzon Crescent, Barking, east London; his unemployed brother Bobby, 30; Gary Pollard, 33, unemployed, of Wellington Drive, Dagenham, Essex; Dean Haggerty, 33, market trader, of Mansfield Road, Wanstead, east London; and Donald Meason, 24, a roofer, of The Shaftesburys, Barking. All deny various joint charges with Mr Salmon, although Mr Pollard admits throwing corrosive liquid with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

The court was told that Mr Russell Holt, a mobile discotheque owner, fled after Mr Salmon and two other defendants demanded half his takings. Mr Holt was followed home and attacked by four men, three of them wearing balaclavas, the jury was told.

Mr Holt said his ankle was broken by a pool cue, ammonia was squirted in his eyes, and knife slashes in his hand and head needed 52 stitches. Mr Bruce Houlder, for the prosecution, alleged Mr Salmon ran the protection racket with armed men and threat ened publicans in east London.

"He did his best to set up what I can only describe as his own private empire based on the sort of protection which was so much an evil in this country during the 1960s," Mr Houlder said.

He alleged that there was shooting in two bars, publicans were threatened, their staff frightened or beaten up, and two men had ammonia squirted in their eyes.

The case continues on Monday.

Review launched on dangerous dogs

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

New laws aimed at curbing the growing threat to the public posed by dangerous dogs are being planned by the Government, the Home Secretary disclosed yesterday.

Among ideas being considered is requiring owners to muzzle them when in public places and limiting the number that can be taken out at any one time.

Mr David Waddington said a review had been launched in the wake of mounting concern about exotic and ferocious new breeds such as the bandog.

This 130lb cross between an American pit bull terrier and a mastiff, Rottweiler or Rhodesian ridgeback is sweeping the criminal underworld and has been described by an RSPCA inspector as a "Darwinian nightmare".

Mr Waddington said he was concerned at reports this week that bandogs, bred from crossing pit bull terriers with bigger breeds such as Rottweilers, were being imported, mainly from America.

He has asked Mr Peter Lloyd, an Under-Secretary of State in his department, to prepare urgently a list of options for tightening the law, which was stiffened as recently as last August.

The previous review led to tougher penalties for offending owners and new powers for the courts to ensure the destruction of a dangerous dog. But he said it was necessary to ensure the powers were wide enough.

Mr Waddington continued: "I am looking at the matter again because I think it's a very serious situation, which certainly can't be met by bringing in a dog registration scheme.

"One's got to see whether our laws are tough enough to give sufficient protection to the public against people who take around the streets these terribly fierce dogs."

But Mr Waddington said he did not favour a ban on certain breeds because it would be almost impossible to enforce. "The trouble about saying there is something about a particular breed which makes it inherently dangerous and evil is that you never know when you have got a crossbred or a thoroughbred.

"You have got to look to see how fierce dogs can be controlled and how the public can be protected against them," he said.

"Until recently all the focuses were on Rottweilers. Now the Rottweilers are old hat and they are talking about bandogs. I don't want a schedule to a Bill which spells out all these breeds because some bright spark will start some more inter-breeding and will finish up with some other type of dog."

NEWS ROUNDUP

£10m heroin haul from lorry tank

A Turkish lorry driver was charged last night after customs carrying out a random check at Ramsgate discovered 50kg of heroin concealed in a partition of his vehicle's diesel fuel tank (Robin Young writes).

Ihsan Uskuplugu, aged 27, is to appear at Dover magistrates' court today. The 50kg load is thought to have a value of about £10 million, though Turkish heroin is often of poor quality.

Mr Bruce Davies, for the customs, said that the lorry carrying carpets had come from Ankara through Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Belgium and had crossed the Channel in a freight ferry.

He said there had been no tipoff and described the discovery as "a cold pull" from a random check carried out on lorries coming from Turkey, which is known as a source of heroin.

Fishing plea rejected

The Government has rejected requests for financial aid, according to Mr Willie Hay, president of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes). The request was made at a meeting with Lord Sanderson, Fisheries Minister at the Scottish Office, when fishermen were told of new measures, starting tomorrow, to reduce North Sea haddock fishing by 30 per cent.

"We believe .. fishermen should be paid to decommission vessels," he said. "The EC pays 50 per cent of such grants and Britain and Ireland are the only members not taking advantage." Lord Sanderson's response, he said, was that the Government could consider intervention only if the Scottish fleet was in a state of "terminal decline".

£112m aid for Ireland

The European Commission yesterday approved a £112 million contribution to a four-year government initiative to fight unemployment in Northern Ireland. The aid brings to £173 million the funding for two schemes to provide job prospects for more than 8,500 long-term unemployed and to provide training for about 45,000 under-25s. The programmes are the first large-scale schemes to be assisted under the Community's new Social Fund programme.

V&A staff questioned

Two members of the curatorial staff of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London have been arrested after alleged thefts of money from the museum, police said yesterday. The arrests were made at the V&A on February 23 and the two members of staff, a man and a woman, have been released on police bail. Inquiries are continuing. Police said that neither member of staff has been charged. The names have not been released.

Green roads criticized

Ambitious plans to line motorways with trees to soften the environmental impact of the Government's £16 billion road expansion programme were denounced as dangerous and irresponsible yesterday (Michael Dynes writes). An article in *Transport Engineer*, published by the Institute of Road Transport Engineers, highlighted the dangers of roadside accidents and said: "There is hardly a collision more violent than that of a vehicle hitting a tree."

TV licence up by £5

Television licence fees are to rise by £5 to £71 for colour and by £2 to £24 for black and white from April 1. The new charges, to apply to all licences bought or renewed after the end of March, are in line with changes in the retail price index, the Home Office said. Two new budget payment schemes will allow payment in four instalments to help colour viewers cope with the new payments.

Violence and the poll tax protestors

Anarchist plan to wreck computer software

By Jamie Dettmer

A sinister threat to council community charge records is being planned by Trotskyist agitators, who may already have planted computer viruses to disrupt the software of two Scottish boroughs.

The agitators are closely associated with the All Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, the organization behind violent scenes outside town halls across Britain.

Militant supporters and anarchists who specialize in computer hacking may already have interfered with software in Scotland. In some English boroughs they are understood to have attempted to recruit local government computer staff to the campaign against the tax.

Last night, Miss Emma Nicholson, Conservative MP for Devon West and Torridge, said she feared Militant left groups might have "penetrated local government computer departments with the aim of disrupting collection of the community charge". Miss Nicholson, a former computer consultant, said she would re-introduce an amendment to the Computer Misuse Bill, at present before the Commons, outlawing "electronic picketing". The amendment would make it a criminal offence for staff to tamper with their employers' software during an industrial or political dispute.

According to Miss Nicholson, an English council recently found there had been an attempt to substitute dead people's names for living ones in poll tax software.

Earlier this year, computer experts at Lothian council had to examine the council's poll tax software after it appeared that a virus had been planted. The experts are still not sure whether the problem was just an error or a bug introduced by an agitator.

Last month, Miss Julia Jenner, a Militant supporter based in Maidstone, urged computer programmers who are developing community charge software to join the protest against the tax.

Several English and Welsh boroughs have had talks with computer firms responsible for the software about preventing hackers from gaining access to borough computers.

Last night, Mr Albert Tait, finance officer at the Confederation of Scottish Local Authorities, said there was some concern about hackers. "Computer software is always vulnerable," he said.

Two anarchist publications, Insurrection and Electronics and *Computing for Peace*, are devoted to passing on tips about how to hack into computers. Class War, the anarchist group linked with the 1986 Wapping dispute, has also shown interest in high-tech disruption.

Councils around the country have been recruiting new staff to cope with the expansion of computer work related to the poll tax and few have been vetted.

Police go on standby for fresh town hall trouble

By Stewart Tendler and Nicholas Wood

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, yesterday called for an urgent report from Scotland Yard on the poll tax riot in Hackney, east London, which led to 60 arrests, scores of smashed shops and nearly 30 police injuries.

Mr Waddington said that the clash on Thursday night *had been a disgraceful affair* triggered by the "nasty left coming out of the woodwork". Senior police yesterday accused some demonstrators of being bent on attacking the police rather than the tax.

Hundreds of London police were called up ready for possible trouble last night at two more London town halls where the poll tax was due to be set or discussed.

Policing plans for council meetings in the London boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark were redrawn after the violent confrontation at Hackney on Thursday.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that substantial police manpower would be available for the two south London council meetings last night. Southwark council was planning to set a poll tax while Lambeth council was debating its budget.

In Hackney a team of detectives began to investigate incidents that could lead to further prosecutions. At least 45 shops or offices were wrecked, some were looted and a police car was badly damaged.

The Yard said that a third of the 60 people arrested were from outside Hackney. During the day nine men, from Glasgow, Dorset, Cambridge, Lancashire, and east London, appeared at Old Street Magistrates' Court; others have been bailed by police.

Three people were charged with criminal damage; three with assaults on the police; one with actual bodily harm against the police; three with obstructing the highway; six with burglary; one with theft of police equipment; three with being drunk and disorderly; one with possession of an offensive weapon; and 39 were accused of public order breaches.

Twenty-nine officers and four protesters were injured. Four officers were treated at Homerton hospital and five are on sick leave.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Michael Taylor, in charge of the police area, said: "There were clearly a number of people intent on attacking police whose presence had nothing to do with the demonstration against the tax."

Chief Superintendent Niall Mulvihill said: "It was a difficult event to police because of the significant minority which infiltrated the crowd and were inciting violence.

"They had clearly not come to express their democratic rights, but to attack police lines, and many local people were vocal in dissociating themselves from those infiltrators. The restraint and forbearance of the police involved was a privilege to observe."

Police estimate that the crowd numbered between 3,000 and 5,000 while the police, including reserves, were about 300. They were *pelted with missiles including* paint, full milk bottles, eggs and sticks but the demonstration was policed without resort to riot equipment.

In court yesterday Stephen George, aged 20, of Earith, Cambridge, who was living in Stoke Newington, was ordered to an attendance centre for 36 hours after admitting having thrown rotten tomatoes.

Mr Jeremy Coleman, for the prosecution, said George was seen to take a shiny object out of his bag and throw it at the town hall.

When arrested he was said to have shouted: "What's up, can't people have some fun nowadays?" and to have told police: "I was only throwing tomatoes. I don't mind having tomatoes thrown at me."

The magistrate, Mr Peter Badge, said: "Peaceful protest is a fundamental right of anyone in this country. Your behaviour only hinders a protest."

Andrew Roche, aged 44, of Laura Place, Clapton, east London, was fined £250 for spitting at a police officer.

Brian Elias, a cabinet maker, aged 23, of Ainsworth Road, Homerton, was fined £40 for disorderly behaviour.

Also before the court were Jonathon Christian, aged 19, unemployed, of Thornford Road, Yetminster, Sherborne, Dorset, accused of affray and bailed until March 23; Russell Dudbury, unemployed, aged 22, of St Hubert's Road, Hindburn, near Blackburn, Lancashire, remanded in custody until March 16 accused of assault, criminal damage and disorderly conduct; David Chavy, unemployed, aged 27, of Graham Road, Hackney, east London, charged with obstructing a police officer, who was bailed until March 16; Marcus Rosking, unemployed, aged 19, of Byers Road, Hillhead, Glasgow, accused of disorderly behaviour, bailed until March 16; Martin Handy, no age given, of Amborough Gate, Clapton, east London, accused of threatening behaviour, bailed until March 13; John Williams, unemployed, aged 20, of Fairholt Road, Hackney, charged with affray, bailed to May 23.

All the defendants remanded were ordered to stay away from Hackney Town Hall and had conditions of residence.

Mrs Eleanor McLaughlin, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, learnt yesterday that she could have possessions sold off to meet an unpaid community charge debt. Next week, sheriff officers plan to visit her home to carry out a poinding, the process by which goods are assessed for sale to recoup her family's unpaid tax, estimated at £1,200. Mrs McLaughlin, a Labour councillor, who as Lord Lieutenant is the Queen's official representative in Edinburgh, said she would take no notice of the demand.

'The war was nothing as bad as this'

ALISTAIR GRANT

Shopkeepers in Mare Street, Hackney, clearing the aftermath of a night of vandalism and looting during the poll tax riot.

By Libby Jukes

Disgusting, disgraceful, rent-a-mob were the words on everybody's lips in Hackney, east London, yesterday as shoppers contemplated the aftermath of the poll tax demonstration that turned into a riot on Thursday night.

As they cleared shopfronts of shattered glass and assessed the cost of stolen and damaged goods, shocked retailers were contemplating the possibility of more ugly scenes at Monday's meeting of the Hackney Against the Poll Tax organization at the town hall, which the Labour MPs Miss Diane Abbott and Mr Brian Sedgemore are expected to attend.

"It is appalling," Mrs Maureen O'Connor said as she made her way along Mare Street, the main shopping precinct. "I lived here during the war and never saw anything as bad as this." Mr Jerry White, Hackney council's chief executive, said: "Local people get the worst of all worlds — a high poll tax, cuts in services, and now this vandalism."

About 50 shops in the area had windows smashed and many were looted as the demonstration spread from the town hall and degenerated into a riot. Metal grilles and shutters proved no deterrent. Staff reporting for work at Woolworths, BHS and Mothercare were faced with hours of cleaning up as the stores closed to customers.

Only laminated windows, which shattered but generally held together, enabled business to continue at Marks & Spencer. The DER electrical rental shop lost 30 to 40 pieces of equipment, including video cameras and recorders. Two television sets were recovered by police as they arrested looters taking them out.

Mr Robert Walker, whose discount furniture shop opens straight on to the street, estimated the evening had cost him £10,000."Nothing was taken, but we've cleared up broken glass right at the back of the shop, and a lot of mattresses and sofas have been ripped."

The manager of a drug store estimated that it would cost £3,000 to replace damaged windows and stock thrown out into the road. "They were chancers," he said. He described Mr Bernard Schwartz, owner of P&J Records next door, as the "local hero", but Mr Schwartz was more modest. "I just stood in front of my shop when I heard the crowd coming," he said. "It seemed to put them off.

"There were about 15 to 20 people doing the looting, but I did not recognize any of them as locals, and I have lived in Hackney for 27 years."

As well as estate agents, supermarkets and McDonalds, smaller retailers also suffered. Mr Keith Diss, owner of the Happy Days card shop, lost soft toys and £290 from his till.

Mr John Ridgway, a glazier, who started work at 10.30pm when he was called to the Job Centre, one of the first targets of the violence, said: "From the Job Centre we moved on to the betting shop, and then we just carried on working all night. We have got at least 40 jobs lined up."

Militant buoyed up by campaign

By Jamie Dettmer

Further evidence emerged yesterday that Militant is eager to use the anti-poll tax agitation as part of a recruitment drive. It is also becoming clear that the agitation is being seen by the tendency's leaders as a means of boosting the group's finances by increasing the sales of its newspaper.

The aims have been clearly stated over the last few weeks in dozens of articles in *Militant*, the Trotskyist organization's weekly newspaper. Militant supporters closely associated with the *All* Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation regularly report their success in attracting new members and selling the newspaper.

The articles also show that moderate Labour leaders, at national and local level, are as much the target of the agitation as the Tory Government.

In *Militant* last month, Mr Tony Cross, active on the Bow anti-poll tax union (APTU) in east London, wrote that his group had succeeded in getting the Bow Labour Party's local government conference "to demand that the Labour council must not take people who can't or won't pay to court".

In January, Mr Gary Freeman, secretary of the Nottingham APTU, reported that "non-payment is going to happen" and that "we are going to make local councillors' worse fears come true".

Mr Rab McKinley, of the Kelty APTU, attacked the Labour-controlled Fife regional council for using sheriffs against community charge defaulters. "The disgrace of it is that these people are the agents of a Labour council. Labour Party members are furious."

Intimidation of councillors is a clear aim. Mr Tony Percy, of Sale Moor APTU, Manchester, reported back to *Militant* last November about a Trafford Council meeting which ended in the police being called. "When the meeting was under way we started singing and chanting protests. The mayor lost his nerve and shouted that the poll tax had nothing to do with him. Everyone in the gallery laughed and carried on singing."

Labour as much the target of agitation as Tories

Last September, Mr Kevin Williamson, of Lothian APTU, wrote in *Militant*: "The Labour councillors had better watch out. All six of Edinburgh's constituency Labour parties have now called for the Labour council to refuse to use warrant sales to collect poll tax debts." Trying to get the local government unions involved in the non-payment campaign is also a major aim. Mr Ged Grebby, Newcastle upon Tyne APTU, reported to *Militant* last January about "linking mass non-payment with the council workers' fight to save jobs".

The recruitment and funds effort comes through time and again. Mr George Knell, of Huddersfield APTU, reported in January: "In the past five weeks we've managed to sell over 620 copies of *Militant* and have broken our fighting fund target.

"We've done this by stopping people in the streets with a *Militant* anti-poll tax petition, papers and talking to them. We explain the role of our paper in the anti-poll tax campaign." Already, moderate Labour MPs are fearful that Militant will, through the anti-poll tax campaign, build up Trotskyist membership in local Labour parties.

Four Labour councillors resigned from Haringey council yesterday after refusing to set a poll tax charge. They had earlier voted against a proposed poll tax levy of £572.89. They include the former council leader, Mr Steve King.

Meanwhile, an amateur radio operator who disrupted police operational channels at a poll tax protest outside the civic offices in Swindon is being hunted. He was said to have used a powerful and sophisticated transmitter.

NHS funding

Clarke defends cuts in letter to MPs

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The Government last night was driven into having to *defend its position on Nat*ional Health Service cuts to its own backbenchers.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, yesterday wrote to Conservative MPs asking them to keep in perspective "accusations" about underfunding and claiming that the overall financial position had never been stronger.

The move came as the Labour Party accused the Government of turning the NHS into a "one-party state" by replacing Labour health authority chairmen with Tory appointees. There are now only four Labour chairmen left in 190 posts.

Mr Robin Cook, shadow health spokesman, said that he would appoint shadow chairs in the run up to the next election to be more representative of local communities.

In a three-page letter sent to all Conservative MPs, Mr Clarke said that he did not accept *claims* that the *NHS* was underfunded, and accused managers of making excuses.

"The current fashion throughout the NHS and particularly in districts where they have got into financial difficulties, is to complain about 'underfunded pay increases', 'higher levels of inflation than the NHS' and so on," he wrote.

"Although they are frequently reported, they do not stand up to serious examination." *Increased spending on* the NHS was running far ahead of inflation on any measure he said.

"Too many DHAs still include increased staffing levels, uncontrolled grade drift and other management problems as part of their costs for which they say they are underfunded, thereby implying they have no control over them."

He said it was irrelevant to NHS funding to quote the RPI of 7.7 per cent, as the NHS did not pay mortgage interest on building. "Higher levels of inflation quoted as applying to the NHS can be regarded as measures of the failure of some authorities to control rising costs," Mr Clarke said.

Mr Cook said it was plain daft to say that health authorities did not live in the real world of inflation of around 8 per cent when Mr Clarke had just increased prescription charges by 8.9 per cent in line with the rate of medical inflation.

"*The fact that Mr Clarke* has been driven to write to all backbenchers is a revealing glimpse of the unease of Government backbenchers about the financial crisis in the NHS." Mr Cook had earlier referred to Mr Clarke's decision to replace 28 out of 120 chairman as "the day of the long scalpels".

Three more Labour chairmen had been pushed aside and most of the new appointments were Conservative councillors or businessmen, he said. In North East Thames, which is facing serious financial difficulties, three of the four new chairmen are or had been Tory councillors, he said.

Dr John Dunwoody, a former Labour MP and junior health minister, was replaced in Bloomsbury health authority after eight years by a Conservative councillor, Sir Alan Greengross.

Mr Clarke: Letter to all Conservative backbenchers.

Dr Dunwoody had pressed ministers to allow him to remain until the health authority, now trying to save £7 million, merged with neighbouring Islington later this year.

In Leeds East the new district chairman is also the chairman of Yorkshire Conservatives. "These are appointments by a Government out of touch with the nation, of people out of touch with their communities."

A forthcoming Labour government would not be bound by the appointments, he said. Where people were not committed to the NHS or not representative of the community, he would appoint shadow chairs in coming months.

Unions demand reduction in maximum radiation levels

By Ronald Faux

Trade unions at four plants run by British Nuclear Fuels yesterday demanded a radical reduction in the maximum permitted radiation levels to which workers can be exposed.

After a meeting in Blackpool, attended by senior BNFL management and union shop stewards, Mr Jack Dromey, national officer of the Transport & General Workers' Union, said both sides must address the question of reducing radiation urgently.

The concern follows a recent report by Professor Martin Gardner of Southampton University which established a statistical link between the exposure of workers to radiation and leukaemia in their children.

Mr Dromey said concern was so great the unions were not prepared to wait for the company to carry out further studies to verify Professor Gardner's findings.

He agreed that achieving lower levels would be a very costly exercise. However, he said: "Whenever new lower levels have been set in the past the industry has always said we will never do it, it will cost too much. But when we have applied pressure on them they have met these new targets."

After the meeting a BNFL spokesman said the company adopted design targets of a maximum of 15 millisieverts per individual each year in 1979. This compared with the statutory annual limit of 50 millisieverts for each individual. He said these targets have been applied ever since, so the objective of the trade unions has already been met.

"By introducing new control arrangements and plant improvements, we have also reduced radiation doses in older plants. Further cutting of dose levels to the target level sought by the trade unions will clearly be more difficult. But we will examine the implications of the union objective with their representatives in a constructive way as part of the programme of work put in hand after the Gardner report."

● A surge in unusual defects in babies and animals born near a nuclear plant in a heavily industrialized part of Quebec has triggered a medical inquiry into the causes (Reuter reports from Montreal).

At least nine deformed babies were born near Gentilly, 65 miles north-east of Montreal, between 1987 and mid-1989, Miss Christiane Lemaire, of the Sainte Marie Hospital in Trois Rivières, said.

Police inquiry could look at case of Birmingham six

By Craig Seton

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, appears to be have opened the door to the possibility of a new inquiry into the case of the six men convicted of the Birmingham pub bombings in 1974.

Mr Waddington said that the investigation by Mr Donald Shaw, assistant chief constable of West Yorkshire, into the disbanded West Midlands police serious crime squad had the power to examine the cases of the, so-called Birmingham six.

The Home Secretary said while campaigning for the Mid Staffordshire by-election that Mr Shaw's inquiry could, if necessary, go back almost 16 years to examine the pub bombings investigation, which involved some members of the serious crime squad.

Six Irishmen who were convicted of the murders have maintained their innocence and claimed that confessions were beaten out of them by police officers.

The remarks attributed to Mr Waddington yesterday caused surprise and confusion as the terms of reference given to the serious crime squad inquiry by Mr Geoffrey Dear, Chief Constable of the West Midlands, limited it to cases arising from 1986 under the new Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

The West Yorkshire inquiry is being supervised by the Police Complaints Authority, which is restricted by law to overseeing cases since 1984.

West Yorkshire police said that the West Midlands Chief Constable would have to extend the scope of the inquiry before it could examine the Birmingham six case.

The Home Office yesterday did not deny the remarks attributed to Mr Waddington, but said: "The Home Secretary was merely saying that the possibility exists of the inquiry going back further than the cut-off point of the mid-1980s. It is nothing new."

West Midlands police said last night that while Mr Shaw's remit restricted his inquiries to 1986 onwards, if evidence came to light that indicated it was right and proper to go back further "there is no reason why he should not approach the Chief Constable of the West Midlands with a request to extend the timespan of the inquiry."

At this stage Mr Shaw had not indicated that his inquiries had led him back that far.

The police said Mr Waddington's remarks were similar to comments he had made in the House of Commons last month.

Mattress cover inquiry

Scientists to check toxic gas theory in cot deaths

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Experts are to investigate a claim that some cot deaths are caused by toxic gases emitted from the babies' mattresses, the Department of Health announced yesterday.

Suspicions that PVC mattress coverings could release the gases in certain conditions were first aroused last year, but Sir Donald Acheson, the Government's chief medical officer, said yesterday there was no scientific evidence to support the theory.

He urged parents not to be alarmed and not to take any action such as discarding the cot mattresses. "We have a duty to investigate all possible causes of cot deaths, but I believe that parents should feel very reassured by the lack of evidence so far in this particular case."

About 1,500 cot deaths a year occur in Britain. They are little understood, Sir Donald said. "All we can be certain of is that there is no single cause."

The gas theory has been put forward by Mr Barry Richardson, director of Penarth Research International, a company which provides chemical advice to industries on the biodegradation of materials.

He suggested that the toxic gases, arsine, stibene and phosphine, could be released from PVC mattress coverings if they were soiled and affected by a household fungus, and inhaled by the infants.

Sir Donald said no case of cot death due to the gases had been reported. "Any new hypothesis on cot deaths deserves careful consideration. The death of an infant is a shattering blow to parents. We have to investigate all possibilities, but this needs to be done in a way which avoids the extraordinary pain and anguish of alarming parents."

The expert group will be led by Professor Paul Turner, chairman of the Government's independent expert advisory committee on toxicity. He is professor of clinical pharmacology at St Bartholemew's Hospital, London.

The others in the group are specialists in toxicology, neonatal pathology, epidemiology, analytical chemistry and the study of fungi.

The experts will carry out research at St Bartholemew's and at the Laboratory of the Government Chemist in central London.

Experiments by Mr Richardson to support his theory are also being assessed by government chemists, but they have not yet succeeded in replicating the claimed results.

The Government is simultaneously involved in two other cot death research initiatives. In one, the Medical Research Council is carrying out a review of the medical and scientific literature on infant deaths, to advise on what new research is needed.

In the other, the Department of Health is considering ways of setting up a form of multi-disciplinary inquiry into infant deaths, including cot deaths.

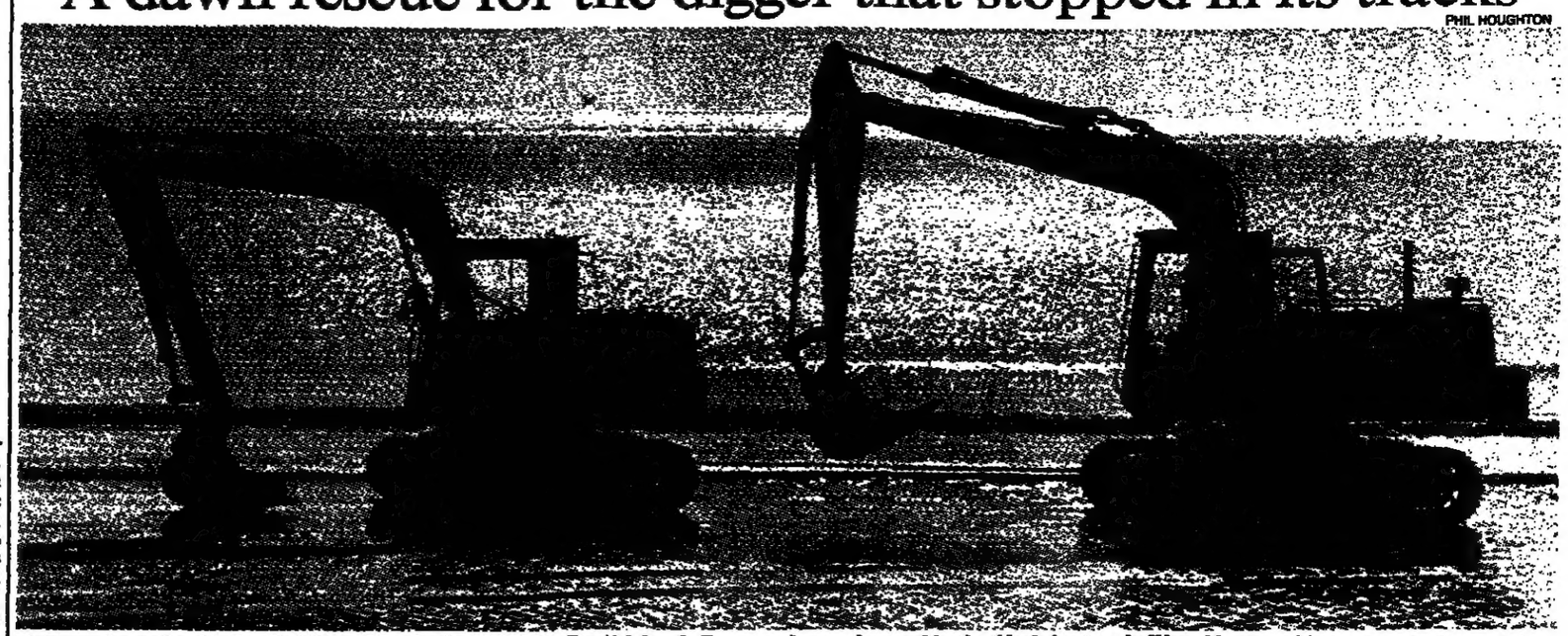
The number of cot deaths reported has increased in the past five years. However, there has an almost identical decrease in reports of infant deaths from respiratory disorders, a leading risk factor in cot deaths. "It could be that the deaths are occurring at the same rate but are being recorded under different names," Sir Donald said.

His advice to parents was to keep the babies warm but to avoid overheating, ensure good ventilation, follow good hygiene by keeping all clothing and bedding fresh and clean, and be alert to signs that the baby might be unwell.

It will be easier for patients to make a complaint against their family doctor or dentist under new regulations laid yesterday (Jill Sherman writes). Complaints procedures are to be simplified and streamlined from April 2, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Minister of State at the Health Department, said in a parliamentary answer. People will be able to make oral rather than written complaints to their family practitioner committees and the time limit for filing a complaint will be extended from eight to 13 weeks.

A dawn rescue for the digger that stopped in its tracks

PHIL HOUGHTON



A digger that suffered hydraulic failure while clearing shingle on Dawlish beach, Devon, and was submerged by the tide, being towed off by a bigger machine as dawn broke yesterday.

Students plan protests to mar loans Bill's progress

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The National Union of Students (NUS) has called for a wave of shutdowns, sit-ins and demonstrations against the Government's student loans Bill to coincide with the start of its committee stage in the Lords on Monday.

There is widespread cross-party support among peers, including Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Lord Haig, for amendments which would delay the Education (Student Loans) Bill until next year, while details of the Government's "top-up" loans scheme are completed.

Four Conservative peers, Lord Rippon, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Blake and Baroness Young, have moved that the regulations governing the introduction of the scheme be subjected to parliamentary approval.

The Liberal Democrat, Earl Russell, a history don at King's College London and a strong opponent of the scheme to abolish students rights to income support and housing benefit while offering them loans of about £420 a year, has tabled an amendment which would let the Government's details of how the scheme would work be enshrined in law.

His office said that although he disagreed with the scheme, the Government's four-clause enabling Bill did not give Parliament enough detail to discuss it thoroughly. "At least this way it can be subjected to parliamentary scrutiny."

The NUS admitted yesterday that the legislation is well advanced and that students are less easily mobilized against it. However, it said local protests would be strong.

Students at the University of East Anglia will hold a joint press conference with university authorities on Tuesday to protest about the loans, but they have decided against a shut-down or boycott of lectures.

The university said there would be a few class cancellations for a rally at the university.

● Scheme should be subjected to scrutiny of Parliament ●

Mr Peter Harris, the union president at Essex University, said undergraduates would occupy the main lecture blocks on Monday evening before organizing a mass lobby of the Conservative club in Colchester.

The University of Manchester Institute of Technology is planning a mock funeral for free education and students from the university will march through the city.

Students at the City of London Polytechnic are planning a 24-hour sit-in.

The NUS said it did not expect closure of all colleges, but demonstrations would show students were still very much opposed to the loans.

● All state schools should be "privatized" to cut the community charge by a third, according to a former government minister (Our Education Editor writes).

Sir Rhodes Boyson said last night: "The Government must do something about the unpopularity of the community charge. Here is a scheme which would lower the community charge: privatize education within the philosophy of Thatcherism, improve educational standards and win again popularity for our party as a radical caring government."

He told the Clwyd South West Conservative Association that education is by far the largest component in the charge and should be taken out of local authority budgets.

"If education were switched to total government funding paid out of national taxation, the community charge could be cut everywhere to a figure of less than one third of that at present projected."

The Government, however, might lay itself open to the criticism that this amounted to "nationalizing" education as it had "nationalized" the curriculum. To avoid that charge, all state schools should be given grant-maintained status and funded by an educational voucher system.

Red Arrows sell for five times estimate

Eight of the famous Red Arrow fighter aircraft were sold at Sotheby's yesterday to a number of American buyers for a total of £668,000, five times the estimated price.

Toby Wilson, the expert in charge of the London sale, said it was the first time the Ministry of Defence had offered aircraft in a public sale at Sotheby's.

"The estimates were all pitched low to attract potential buyers, because it was the first sale, but I still didn't expect prices to go so high," he said.

Secrecy worthy of the ministry itself surrounded the identity of most buyers of the eight Folland FO-141 Gnats.

A private American telephone bidder paid the top price of £122,000 for one Gnat still in the Red Arrows livery.

Seven Alouette AH Mk II helicopters were also sold for a total of £281,000, one fetching almost 10 times the estimate. They were used by the Army Air Corps in Cyprus.

A total of 23 ministry aircraft fetched £1,065,000 (£1,171,500, including 10 per cent sales premium).

● A series of auctions to sell off the antiques collection of an eccentric recluse who died last year has raised almost £7 million.

Hundreds of thousands of ornaments, pictures, pieces of jewellery and other bric-a-brac hoarded by Ron Summerfield at his home and shop in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, were sold at 11 auctions.

● The most important Elizabethan painting on the market for many years is on offer at the European Fine Art Fair in Maastricht, which opens today (Sarah Jane Checkland writes from Maastricht).

It is a portrait of Princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I, later Princess Palatine and Queen of Bohemia, also known as the Queen of Hearts. Painted by Robert Peake the Elder, and showing its subject as a beautiful young woman in satin dress and stiff lace ruff, it is a highlight at the Weiss Gallery's stand for £350,000.

The Maastricht fair, based in a lavish new conference centre in The Netherlands' oldest city, is becoming an essential event in the European art calendar.

The fact that the city is a free port, on the borders of West Germany and The Netherlands, attracts buyers and sellers from all over the world.

Offerings range from a pair of Caucasian socks at the textile gallery stand at £1,250 to a magnificant, austere still life featuring a jug, overturned glass, and partially peeled lemon, by Jan Jansz den Uyl. At a price of £3 million at the Newhealth gallery stand, it is the most expensive work on offer.

New exhibitors this year include the London old master dealers Harari & Johns, renowned for making discoveries. The fair continues until March 18.

SALEROOM

Parents in transplant appeal for dying baby

The parents of a baby boy who has only a few days to live appealed yesterday for a donor liver to save him.

Jonathan South, aged nine months, from Bishopthorpe, near York, who is being treated at the Birmingham Children's Hospital for a dangerous liver disorder, needs a transplant.

Dr Deirdre Kelly, in charge of Jonathan's case, said: "He is very critically ill. I don't think he will make the other end of the weekend without a great deal of luck."

Hospital death

Police are interviewing a patient after a man was found stabbed to death at a high security mental hospital at Maghull, Merseyside.

Tory choice

Mrs Angela Knight, aged 39, a Sheffield city councillor and director of a chemical engineering firm, has been chosen as prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate for Erewash, Derbyshire. Mr Peter Rost, who had a majority of 9,754 at the last election, is to retire at the next one.

Fox savaged

Mr Stewart Devlin is planning legal action after Coniston foxhounds tore a fox to pieces in front of his pregnant wife in the garden of their home at Elterwater, Cumbria.

Hope's £30,000

The comedian Bob Hope has given £30,000 for an extension to the theatre named after him in Eltham, south-east London, his birthplace.

Bus aid

Aid for Romania from Shetland includes a bus given by a local firm, which will be driven there full of donated goods.

False alarm

A new £2 million security system failed to detect a thief who stole an alarm bell from outside the Central Criminal Court, London.

Bird watch

A national census of mute swans, Britain's only resident swans, will be held in April and May.

Smoking out

Smoking is to be banned at all West Yorkshire fire stations.

A bouquet for the Greens

JEREMY WILLIAMS

Mr Robert Saunders, the Green Party candidate, discussing the merits of a bouquet with Mr Colin Ward, a market stall-holder, while out campaigning in Rugeley yesterday.

Police cars in poll tax dispute

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent, Staffordshire

Car buyers should beware if they are offered a second-hand Jaguar that has seen service with the Staffordshire police.

As Labour disclosed yesterday while campaigning in the Mid-Staffordshire by-election, the county's luxury motorway patrol cars have 250,000 miles on the clock and are on their second engine. But because of Home Office spending cuts they cannot be replaced with new models capable of matching criminals fleeing on to the M6.

Mrs Sylvia Heal, the Labour candidate aiming to overturn a 14,650 Tory majority, maintained that the local police had joined the popular uprising against the poll tax — the issue that dominates the campaign.

Mrs Heal said Mr Charles Kelly, the Staffordshire Chief Constable, had described a £1 million cut in the budget for new vehicles and equipment as a "monumental blunder".

He had dismissed the £400,000 allocated by the Home Office as not enough to replace police bicycles, let alone patrol vehicles, which were now worth "nothing more than scrap".

But Mr David Waddington, Home Secretary, said during a visit to the constituency that the cutback was necessary to compensate for a national £19 million overspend on the police vehicle and equipment budget last year. "Nobody is going to tell me we have starved the police of resources," he said.

Police manpower was up by 14,500 officers since 1979 and by 192 uniformed manpower in Staffordshire.

Mrs Heal said: "The party of law and order is deliberately condemning Mid-Staffordshire to a future of rising crime, without the protection of a mobile police force.

"This is the clearest evidence yet that the poll tax and the spending limits it is based on are undermining the very fabric of community life," she said.

The Home Secretary said he would be talking to the chief constable about his plea for more cash.

The first week's campaigning in the Midlands seat ended with Labour seemingly on course for victory after a string of encouraging opinion poll findings putting it about 10 points ahead of the Tories.

The only cloud on the horizon for the Opposition is the violence around the town hall demonstrations against the poll tax. If this issue remains at the forefront of public attention over the next week or so it could persuade some Tory defectors to revert to their former allegiance.

For all that, the community charge remains the Tories' Achilles' heel with widespread public confusion, anxiety, and in some cases fear surrounding its introduction.

One pregnant, unemployed and unmarried woman on a council estate in Stone thought the tax would either land her on the streets or in prison.

Mr Charles Prior, the Tory candidate, said yesterday that local people were no longer actively blaming the Government for community charge levels of about £350. Spendthrift councils were being held responsible. He would not be believed on the estates.

MID-STAFFS BY-ELECTION

1987 General election: J Heddle (C), 28,644; C St Hill (Lab) 13,990; T Jones (L/All), 13,114; J Bazeley (Independent C) 836. C maj: 14,654.

When molluscs can turn into monsters

SCIENCE REPORT

Peaceable molluscs turn into monsters when confronted with predators, according to new research.

Researchers at Utah State University and the University of Oklahoma have discovered that freshwater snails of the species *Physella virgata* grow to double their normal size at the merest whiff of crayfish.

They do this even when crayfish are not physically present: breeding the snails in water previously used to grow crayfish has the same effect, but only if the crayfish concerned had actively hunted snails.

The researchers think that the snails are responding to chemicals in the water released by the crayfish when they eat snails.

It is not simply a question of getting bigger: the scent of crayfish elicits an entire reorganization of the snail life-cycle. The snails normally grow to their full, adult size of four millimetres across in just over three months, at which time they are sexually mature. They usually die of old age before reaching the venerable vintage of five months.

But when hungry crayfish share the same water, the snails delay the onset of sexual maturity until the age of about eight months, when they are 10 millimetres in diameter. They can then live for as long as 14 months.

The researchers reasoned that the snails were responding to the crayfish's predilection for small, tender snails, leaving the tough old boilers alone — simple natural selection. This idea, however, could not explain the response of unmolested snails to the possibility — rather than the actuality — of being eaten by crayfish. Cases of prey species turning against their oppressors in this way are few, but there are probably more than is generally realized.

One life-and-death battle goes on in the small puddles that collect in tree trunks in California. Single-celled grazers, *Lambornella clarki*, are eaten by the young larvae of the treehole mosquito, *Aedes sierrensis*. But they put up with this for only so long: chemicals secreted by the mosquito larvae transform the placid microbes into ravening pathogens, swarming over the mosquito larvae and devouring them inside and out.

In another case, an armed truce at sea between molluscs and crustaceans — whelks and lobsters — is maintained not so much by chemical stimuli as by eternal vigilance on the part of the molluscs.

In the sea around Malgas Island, off South Africa, lobsters rule unchecked, and have the pick of the whelk and mussel populations. But things are different around Marcus Island only four kilometres away, where there is not a lobster to be seen. Should one be foolish enough to stray near, it is mobbed by literally hundreds of ferocious whelks that tear it to pieces.

Henry Gee

More chemicals banned or limited

Patten pledges 'a wholesome' North Sea

From Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent, The Hague

The controversy over nuclear waste disposal which reached a climax with the international barracking of Britain at the Third North Sea Conference at The Hague on Thursday night overshadowed big steps forward in the fight against marine pollution, in which the United Kingdom played a full part.

The nine conference member states agreed to phase out completely the highly toxic chemicals polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) by the end of 1999, with, at British insistence, each country formally committed to developing its own disposal facilities and to producing detailed action plans by 1992.

All the North Sea states agreed to make cuts by 1995 of 50 per cent or more (from their 1985 baseline levels) in the amounts of 36 other hazardous chemicals entering the sea from rivers or from the air.

In the case of four particularly dangerous substances — mercury, cadmium, dioxins and lead — they set themselves a target of 70 per cent cut in inputs. They also set up a list of 18 pesticides whose use is to be limited or banned by the end of 1992.

At the prompting of Britain, a memorandum of understanding on dolphins and porpoises was drawn up. That is likely to lead to a comprehensive international agreement on their protection in the North Sea and the Baltic.

Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, said at the end of the conference: "We have had a very constructive conference and as a result the North Sea will be a cleaner and more wholesome sea." The UK's action plan for the measures agreed would be produced within three months, he said.

The programme to control inputs of dangerous substances was a most important step forward, he said. "It addresses the most serious problem of contamination in the North Sea: rivers."

He singled out the dolphins and porpoises agreement; wildlife had previously been neglected in the conference, he said, and the agreement would serve "as a platform on which to build more extensive and ambitious proposals in years to come".

Conference observers, however, could be forgiven for hardly hearing the news amid the angry clamour over Britain's continuing to dump chemical wastes and sewage sludge in the sea, which ended in an acrimonious clash over British refusal to rule out disposal of nuclear waste under the seabed.

Mr Patten had his hands full fending off the attacks, which came principally from four women — Mrs Lone Dybkjaer, Mrs Kristin Hille-Valla and Mrs Birgitta Dahl, the environment ministers of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, and Mrs Hanja Maij-Weggen, the Dutch transport minister and conference chairman.

Mr Patten's ability to stand his ground without losing his good humour and without entering into a public slanging match won him friends among the other ministers. Mrs Maij-Weggen, on the other hand, was seen in some quarters as intemperate in her criticism and as playing to her domestic gallery. Her direct attacks on Mr Patten during the negotiations were strongly resented by British officials.

Mrs Dybkjaer: "Britain playing with our lives."

Mr Patten's announcement in London at the start of the week that sewage sludge dumping was to be phased out by 1998 and the earlier government announcement of an end by 1992-93 to industrial waste dumping — both practices Britain alone continues — failed to satisfy the other ministers but were grudgingly accepted as better than nothing.

The nuclear issue flared unexpectedly at The Hague and seems set to cause considerable discord between Britain and its North Sea partners.

First Mr Padraig Flynn, the Irish environment minister, present as an observer, used his speech to renew the Irish call for the closure of the nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria.

Then in a more serious move, the three Scandinavian ministers formally asked Mr Patten to scrap the planning permission given to the Atomic Energy Authority for a new nuclear waste reprocessing plant at Dounreay in Caithness.

Most serious was the dispute over the resolution that the seabed of the North Sea was not suitable for disposal of nuclear waste, which, in complete isolation, Britain refused to accept. That led to a split in the final declaration. The Government wishes to keep the option of a tunnel under the seabed for the proposed British deep repository for low- and intermediate-level nuclear waste, which Nirex, the nuclear waste executive, is planning at either Sellafield or Dounreay.

The other countries were greatly angered by the British position with Mrs Dybkjaer saying Britain was "playing with all our lives" and with Mrs Maij-Weggen promising to put the issue on the agenda for the next ministerial meeting on the North Sea to be held in 1993, and for the Fourth North Sea Conference to be held in 1995 in Copenhagen.

● Strathclyde Regional Council said last night it faced a bill running into "hundreds of millions of pounds" if it was to comply with the European Commission draft directive laying down minimum standards for the disposal of sewage.

Answer these questions and find out whether Stalin would have killed you.

Josef Stalin was responsible for the deaths of approximately 25 million of his own people.

The majority were killed as punishment for what Stalin called "crimes against the state" but what most of us might consider normal, everyday activities. Would you have been at risk had you lived in Stalin's Russia? If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, then "yes" is the answer to this one.

Do you enjoy jazz?

"Today you play jazz, tomorrow you will betray your country" read a popular poster slogan in Stalin's Russia.

What had started life in the US as the music of the oppressed workers was considered in the USSR to be an indulgence of the decadent bourgeoisie. Playing jazz became a potentially lethal pastime.

Have you ever collected stamps?

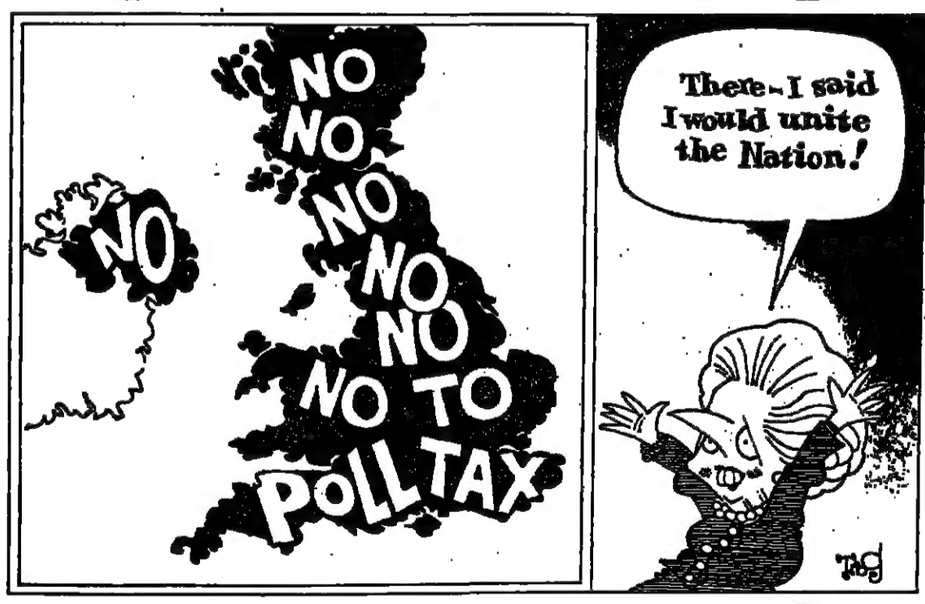
If you were a philatelist in Stalin's Russia, you were in serious trouble. A neighbour would report you. The police would arrest you. And the charge of having "foreign contacts" would be brought against you.

Sentence: hard labour or execution.

Do you know anyone who has been in trouble with the police?

Stalin branded even the most petty criminal an "enemy of the state." Just being acquainted with one was enough to put you at risk. When a senior party official was assassinated, a woman and her family were arrested. She had worked at a library used by the suspect twenty years earlier. That was her crime.

Do you find this cartoon funny?



Whether you do or not, at least you're free either to laugh or not laugh at it. Mocking the government in Stalin's time, however, was treason. Tell a political joke at work and it would spread quickly: until it reached the ears of Stalin's police.

Has a piece of machinery ever let you down?

If it let you down at work you would have been branded a "wrecker."

In one incident, fifty-five Russian mineworkers were arrested because their machinery failed. Only four were released.

Do you enjoy weepy movies?

Or a sad song? Or maybe a tear jerking novel? Stalin's view of this was simple: if it was sad, it was forbidden. Sadder still, it could cost you your life.

Creating or enjoying anything that didn't display wholesome, socialist morals was a punishable offence.

Praising Stalin on the other hand was considered to be artistic talent.

As one researcher put it, "The arts had to form a pact with the devil."

If you find these facts hard to believe we don't blame you.

We've been researching the subject since 1987 and we still have trouble ourselves believing things like this actually went on.

But go on they did, along with countless other atrocities and injustices.

The evidence is there for all to see in "Stalin" a major new documentary in three parts from Thames Television. Watch it if only because, in this country, you have the freedom to do so.

THAMES. A TALENT FOR TELEVISION.

Mujahidin credit militia defector for capture of base

From Zahid Hussain, Peshawar

Afghan Mujahidin guerrillas yesterday claimed to have captured Sindhen air base in southern Herat province, one of the three main air bases in Afghanistan.

Guerrillas of the Jamyat-i Islami faction of the Mujahidin coalition said the base fell after Mr Said Ahmed, the militia chief in Herat, defected to them.

The claim came as the coup attempt launched on Tuesday against President Najibullah's regime by General Shahnawaz Tanai, the former Defence Minister, was petering out. The coup involved members of the Khalq faction of the ruling People's Democracy Party of Afghanistan.

The Peshawar-based Mujahidin leaders, while conceding that fighting inside Kabul had ceased, claim big gains in Herat, Khost, and Kandahar provinces.

Mr Tanvir Ahmed Khan, the Pakistan Foreign Secretary, said in a press briefing that the fall of the town of Khost was expected in the next 48 hours.

These reports have not been confirmed by independent sources.

Kabul civl airport, which was closed after heavy bombing by rebel planes on Tuesday, has reopened and scheduled flights resumed yesterday. Soviet planes carrying supplies have also landed.

Pakistani tribal traders, who have business links with Afghanistan, say telephone contact and normal business have resumed in Kabul after three days of confusion. They say, however, that sporadic incidents of firing continue around the capital.

It appears that Islamabad's efforts to forge an alliance between General Tanai, who is believed to have taken refuge in Pakistan, and the six Mujahidin groups of the Afghan government-in-exile have failed.

Professor Dr Sibghatullah Mujadidi, president of the coalition, has refused to make any alliance with General Tanai. Dr Mujadidi said in a statement that his party would fight the Khalq rebels if they ever took power in Kabul.

Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, head of the Jamyat faction, said the Khalq rebels were communists, and there could be no alliance with communists.

However, Pakistani officials say they remain optimistic that such a joint resistance front can be brought about.

The coalition leaders were also highly critical of another Mujahidin leader, Mr Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the leader of the fundamentalist Hezb-i Islami faction, whose organization has been linked with the coup attempt. Mr Hekmatyar claimed yesterday that his Mujahidin and the rebel forces had scored military victories.

The division within the Mujahidin seems to have spoiled the plans for a concerted offensive against Dr Najibullah's regime.

Meanwhile, Dr Najibullah, yesterday urged Western countries to revise their policy of supporting the Mujahidin.

He said the West should learn a lesson from the political detente prevailing in the world, and end "vacillation towards Afghanistan."

Colombia's M19 rebels surrender their guns

Señor Carlos Pizarro, leader of the M19 guerrilla movement in Colombia, adding a pistol wrapped in a Colombian flag to a pile of arms handed over by his followers to the authorities in Santo Domingo in Colombia's southern mountains. The group, also known as the April 19 Movement, has been blamed for the deaths of judges and the abduction of a US ambassador. It is the country's first leftist guerrilla group to disarm and has now pledged to fight on the field of politics (AP reports). The handing over of the weapons on Thursday to an international committee headed by a Venezuelan, General Ernesto Uscategui, ended 16 years of armed revolt. The committee also included Socialist International delegates from Chile, Britain, Finland and Switzerland. Señor Pizarro is running for the post of mayor of Bogotá in elections to be held on Sunday.

Haitians press for Avril to go

By Charles Bremner

Thousands of demonstrators took to the streets across Haiti demanding the departure of President Prosper Avril after a day of violence in which troops opened fire on crowds, killing at least two people.

As businesses remained closed and public order deteriorated, confusion arose over the whereabouts of the President who has come under intense local and international pressure to step down and allow elections which are scheduled for later this year.

Some diplomatic reports said his wife and children had already fled the country but the US embassy in Port-au-Prince said it believed they were still there.

Protesters hurled stones at troops and erected barricades of burning tyres across the streets of the capital on Thursday. Youths killed one soldier, knocking him out with stones and then burning his body. At least two people were killed when the troops opened fire outside the presidential palace. Demonstrators had massed there waving signs saying "Avril Dictator Must Go" and chanting: "The time has come for him to go, now let's celebrate!"

Members of the Tontons Macoutes secret police, wearing their trade-mark dark glasses, were out in force and appeared to be directing military action. Some ordered soldiers to stop beating civilians rioting outside the presidential palace on Thursday night, witnesses said. Elsewhere there was sporadic shooting in the streets.

The demonstrations drew widespread support from political opposition leaders and members of the business community. The Association of Political Parties, a grouping of 12 opposition organizations, called for the protests to continue until General Avril leaves.

Aoun ready to discuss peace settlement

From Juan Carlos Gumucio
Baabda, east Beirut

General Michel Aoun, the fiery officer who vowed to die fighting his "war of liberation" against the Syrian Army in Lebanon even at the cost of the total destruction of Beirut, said yesterday he wants to make peace with the Muslims and his fellow Maronite Christians, who have proved a surprisingly powerful enemy. He even hinted at peace talks with the Syrians.

One year after his quixotic campaign started with the shelling of Syrian-contolled west Beirut, it is not hard to see that he is tired of living in the underground shelter of the presidential palace of Baabda. He says he will stay — for he still sees his presence here as the only guarantee to Lebanon's sovereignty — but nevertheless he appears to be contemplating a dignified exit. "Maybe Hawaii, when I retire," he joked as he strolled through the empty palace gardens. "I have never ruled out dialogue," he said. "There is no change in my position." The general, of course, was not ready to admit that his latest proposal to discuss the accord reached by the Lebanese Parliament in the Saudi town of Taif last October is a significant departure: until two days ago, he refused to address the issue because he regarded the pact as a "blank cheque" for Syria's ambitions in Lebanon.

President Hrawi and his Syrian-backed Government, he said, "want to talk and I am here. So, dialogue is possible, without any preconditions."

General Aoun's unusually conciliatory posture is stunning. Until recently he was ruling out conversations without a Syrian written timetable for the withdrawal of their estimated 40,000 troops from Lebanese territory. And he was refusing to talk to President Hrawi, whom he called "a Syrian puppet".

What the general appears now to have in mind is a "round table mechanism for national dialogue" in which political reforms demanded by Muslim majority, one of President Hrawi's priorities, would be discussed. The abrogation of the Taif accord for which he so ardently fought is no longer a priority or an immediate demand, General Aoun said.

He does not see this new mood as a capitulation in his campaign against the Syrians, which last year cost more than 900 lives and wounded nearly 3,000 people in six months.

"When you cannot change a phenomenon through politics, external force, internal explosion or any other way, you must deal with it realistically," he had said in an interview with Beirut's *An-Nahar* daily on Thursday.

This approach to conflict, he pointed out, is also applicable to his most recent war against the Phalangist "Lebanese Forces" of Mr Samir Geagea, the worst inter-Christian conflict in Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war. "The war in (Christian) east Beirut is over," he declared. "They (Mr Geagea's militia) are willing to discuss a durable settlement, too."

General Aoun's first peace overtures suggest that the tough, 54-year-old artilleryman is beginning to realize the futility of his efforts to expell the Syrians from Lebanon and become the sole ruler of the Christian community.

He has failed in both cases and perhaps finds himself with no choice but to pave the way for reconciliation and disappear from the scene. According to informed sources, this seems to be the prescription recommended by French and Vatican diplomats who are said to have offered the general a "decorous way out".

Military era ends in Chile

Pinochet bows out as democracy takes the stage

From Lake Sagaris
Santiago

The new Congress building is half-finished, many distinguished guests have not yet arrived and government bureaucrats are still battling over details, but already Chileans have begun to celebrate democracy's return.

Tomorrow President Pinochet will hand over power to Señor Patricio Aylwin, a prominent Christian Democrat elected last December in Chile's first elections in almost 20 years.

Señor Aylwin was supported by a rainbow coalition of 17 parties, most of which are represented in his new Cabinet and the new Parliament. Since the elections defined a Senate and House of Deputies, there has been a battle between the new and old governments over ceremonial procedure.

The presidential sash that General Pinochet will officially give Señor Aylwin will actually be provided by Señor Aylwin himself: General Pinochet will take his home.

And most of the distinguished guests will arrive later today or tomorrow to avoid having to officially greet General Pinochet. Only the Presidents of Argentina and Uruguay, along with Mr Dan Quayle, the US Vice-President, are expected to shake the general's hand.

The elaborate ceremonies which will begin with the official handover of power tomorrow at 1pm and end with a mass rally in the national stadium on Monday evening, mark the end of an era that began on September 11, 1973, when Chile's armed forces overthrew the elected socialist Government.

An estimated 167,000 people and their families were forced into exile and many more were imprisoned and tortured in concentration camps and secret prisons. Human rights groups say that between 10,000 and 30,000 were killed outright. The military Government implemented a far-reaching plan for economic and social reforms, including privatizing health care, pensions and education. It also sold off profitable state corporations. Poverty has invaded the homes of five million Chileans, almost half the population.

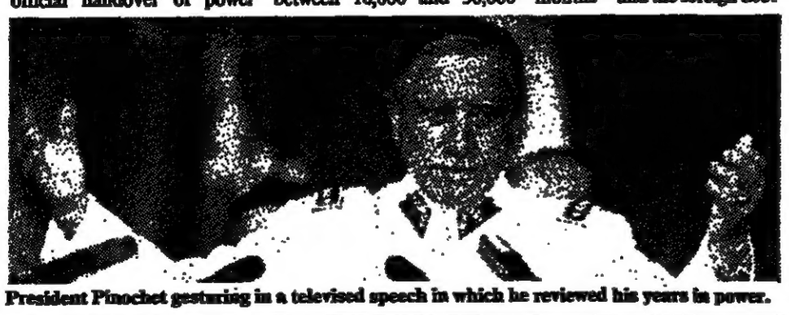
On the other hand, inflation is relatively low — about 22 per cent over the past 12 months — and the foreign debt has dropped from $20 billion (£12 billion) in 1983 to an estimated $16.5 billion today.

The military also made far-reaching changes to Chile's political system. Gerrymandering, special quorum requirements, appointed senators and an electoral system which allows high minority representation has given the General Pinochet's supporters a disproportionate number of seats in the new Congress.

General Pinochet also saw to it that major buildings were passed over to the armed forces for administration.

Most Chilean political analysts believe General Pinochet has an ace up his sleeve. Once he relinquishes the presidency, the General will carry on as army commander-in-chief. Several magazines have published reports on his "four-year plan" to bring himself back to power.

But despite the difficulties, Chileans are bubbling with optimism, even usually cautious political observers.



President Pinochet gesturing in a televised speech in which he reviewed his years in power.

WORLD ROUNDUP

India in talks with Kashmir rebels

Srinagar (AP) — The Indian Government, acknowledging that a Muslim rebellion in Kashmir has reached an "unprecedented point", said yesterday that it had begun a "dialogue" with militant leaders who advocated the state's independence from India. Mr George Fernandes, the federal Railways Minister who is leading the efforts to quell the secessionist movement, said: "We have a tough job here, but I would say I am meeting the right people through intermediaries. It is too early to say what shape the dialogue will take, but at least the process has begun."

Mr Ferandes arrived in Srinagar, the largest city in the Kashmir valley and the focal point of the agitation, on Thursday with a 14-member delegation. The other members returned to Delhi yesterday, but Mr Fernandes stayed, apparently to initiate the dialogue.

Child custody change

Auckland (Reuter) — New Zealand, the centre of a custody battle over Hilary Foretich, an American girl, aged seven, is to pass legislation allowing it to ratify an international convention on child custody cases. Even before the battle moved here, New Zealand had been seen as a haven for Americans and others wishing to evade the repatriation of abducted children from split families. By ratifying the 1980 Hague convention on child custody, New Zealand will commit itself to return children to their country of habitual residence if they have been illegally removed.

Value on wife's life

Canberra (AFP) — Mr Hien Van Nguyen, a Vietnamese immigrant whose wife died in a car accident, has won a landmark ruling on her financial value from Australia's highest court. The three High Court judges said in a unanimous decision that the Nguyen family should be compensated for loss of child-care, cooking, washing, ironing and cleaning, caused by the death of Nu Thi Nguyen, and reinstated damages of $Aus 179,573 (£81,600) which had been reduced on appeal by a Queensland court.

Israel Penthouse folds

Jerusalem — The Hebrew edition of *Penthouse*, more noted for its pictures of naked women than Biblical scholarship or Middle East analysis, folded this week after only eight months on Israeli news stands (Richard Owen writes). According to Miss Galia Albin, the publisher of *Hebrew Penthouse*, the Orthodox Jewish lobby killed off the attempt to sell Israeli men a mixture of articles on motoring, crime, humour and adventure, interspersed with unclothed or semi-clothed models.

New refugee centre

Manila — Thousands of Hong Kong's overcrowded Vietnamese refugees may be relocated in a new British-financed transit centre in the Philippines (Vyvyan Tenorio writes). The centre, to be built jointly by the Philippines Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, will be adjacent to existing refugee facilities in Morong town in Bataan province. The British Government has pledged £3 million towards the project. It will not be completed until July.

Punishment reviewed

Dammam, Saudi Arabia (Reuter) — The Jeddah-based Muslim Theologian Council is to discuss whether to allow surgeons to re-attach amputated feet and hands to convicted criminals who have had them severed, the Saudi Arabian newspaper *Al-Moslimoun (The Moslems)* said. Under *Sharia* law, strictly enforced in Saudi Arabia, convicted criminals face amputations for theft and other offences.

March 9 1990 PARLIAMENT

Government warning over 'acid house' parties

A Conservative MP's Bill to curb "acid house" parties was given a second reading in the Commons with strong backing from the Government. Organizers of illegal parties were given their "first public warning" that they faced confiscation of their profits.

The Opposition, although supporting the measure, had reservations about the effect it might have on genuine music festivals.

MPs spoke of the exploitation of young people and the involvement of criminal elements, as well as the dangers to those attending and the nuisance to nearby residents.

Mr Graham Bright (*Luton South*, C) moving second reading of his Entertainment (Increased Penalties) Bill, said that it would allow greater sanctions for offences related to the licensing of premises used for music, dancing or other entertainments. It would create no additional criminal offences.

It was designed to deal with the problems brought about by the spread of the so-called acid-house parties. There was nothing in it to prevent young people from enjoying professionally organized parties in a safe environment, but many of the venues were unsuitable and unsafe. Local residents had to endure disturbances and noise.

There was a criminal element involved in the promotion and management of acid-house parties. Many broke the law. That was why so many were held at secret venues.

At some parties the so-called security guards were equipped with baseball bats, knives and sometimes guns. It was difficult to believe that the pit-bull terriers present were simply being given nocturnal exercise. Massive profits could be made.

Organized crime was already deeply involved in the pay-party cult. "And our young people are paying the price."

The Bill would increase to £20,000, or six months imprisonment, or both, the maximum penalty which could be imposed by a magistrates' court on those convicted of a breach of the licensing terms and conditions concerning entertainments involving music and dancing.

The fine now available was £2,000, or three months imprisonment, or both. Present penalties were so small in relation to the huge profits which could be made that they ceased to be a deterrent.

People in the entertainment business had received threats from criminals, including drug pedlars. Entertainment organizations that had refused to co-operate with criminals had had their premises and staff attacked.

Mr Mark Fisher (*Stoke-on-Trent Central*, Lab) said that he could not welcome the Bill because it would drive out promoters of legal parties and leave the field free to criminals and cowboys.

The penalties were severe, some would say draconian, and the Bill made no distinction between deliberate offences caused by the promoter and actions by individuals attending an event.

It was impossible to organize a large, open-air event without some minor infringements by individuals. These happened even at Glyndebourne.

Mr Harvey Goldsmith, president of the Concert Promoters' Association, and others, had said that their legitimate business activities would be at such risk that they would be driven out and prevented from holding events.

Mr Kenneth Hargreaves (*Hyndburn*, C) said that this was a timely and necessary Bill, but it should be strengthened. He proposed a £50,000 fine and six months imprisonment. Failure to act would mean responsibility for the deaths which would inevitably occur.

Mr Steven Norris (*Epping Forest*, C) said that drugs were distributed at the parties which were often patrolled by men armed with CS gas. They were held in a hostile and dangerous atmosphere.

It was tragic that police resources were being diverted from public order to patrol these events. There was no option because security guards were employed to guard the proceeds of the drug trafficking and the takings which the Inland Revenue probably heard little about. Current fines were derisory and imprisonment should be an option.

Mr Stuart Randall, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that the Labour Party believed that tough action must be taken against the organizers of illegal acid-house parties. However, it would be a serious error if in attempting to tackle the problems of illegal ones, genuine and acceptable promoters of events, such as music festivals, were penalized.

Some people, including some ministers and other MPs, would like to see a ban on all events attended by large numbers of young people. A lot of people resented the young, who were sometimes a bit anti-establishment and liked to kick over the traces. Largely, people should be able to "do their own thing".

Mr John Patten, Minister of State, Home Office, said that there were clearly moral dangers for young people, aged 13, 14 and 15, who were sometimes exposed to drugs for the first time at these parties.

He called for no more loose talk about acid-house parties. These were "pay parties" where promoters made substantial sums.

He criticized the "deeply corrupt practice" where a party never actually took place although people had paid £20 or £30 to go.

"Acid house" was used to lure them into thinking that these were glamorous and exciting occasions. In fact, they were a way of making a lot of money "by evil and corrupt men".

The police did not think that they needed additional powers, but they joined the Government in supporting Mr Bright's efforts to secure a substantial increase in penalties.

Present penalties were very light in comparision to the huge profits that unscrupulous people had made by promoting unlicensed entertainments. The organizers of such parties could afford to ignore the law. It was necessary, as a matter of urgency, that the events be brought under effective licensing control.

The Government, under powers in the Criminal Justice Act 1988, would give magistrates the power to order the confiscation of profits where they exceeded £10,000. Organizers would not be allowed to keep the ill-gotten gains they had made by preying on young people. This was their first public warning. They faced confiscation of their assets, imprisonment or heavy fines.

The Government was not seeking the outright banning of anyone enjoying properly organized events. But the Bill would make it no longer worth while for the organizers of paying parties to continue to operate outside the licensing

Voting Bill approved

The Representation of the People Bill, a backbench measure with all-party support which would allow people who had moved home to vote by post or by proxy where they were registered, was given an unopposed second reading.

Because of the lack of a quorum of 40 MPs, however, it failed to get through its committee stage "on the nod" and now goes to a standing committee. Backed by the Government, the Bill will obviate the need for voters to apply for a postal or proxy vote for each election.

Two other private members' Bills also got unopposed second readings. They are the Protection of Badger Setts Bill and the Access to Health Records Bill.

CORRECTION

In Wednesday's Parliamentary report on the opposition of Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Orpington, C) to Mrs Teresa Gorman's Tax Relief for Household Employers Bill, he should have been quoted as saying that her error lay in "carrying the cult of the individual to extremes . . . in this form (individualism) is anarchic, inherently selfish and destructive of human relationships".

CHANGING FACE OF EUROPE

Key Soviet vote could herald end of party power

From Mary Dejevsky
Moscow

The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party will meet tomorrow to take a decision which could result in the eventual eclipse of party power in the Soviet Union. Members are expected to approve President Gorbachov's plans to create the post of Executive State President and to nominate him for job.

The new presidency will carry the authority to set and implement policy independently of the party politburo.

The Central Committee is also likely to approve new arrangements for the selection of delegates to the Communist Party congress in June or July. These should could give younger, and reform-minded, party officials a better chance of being chosen.

Tomorrow's meeting could also sanction changes in the party politburo.

There was widespread disappointment among reformists after the Central Committee meeting at the end of January that none of the more "conservative" leaders had been dropped, if only as a token of the leadership's determination to accelerate reform.

The new presidency will be the main item on the agenda of an extraordinary meeting of the Congress of People's Deputies – the 2,250-member assembly, two-thirds of whom were directly elected last year – which opens on Monday. As drafted, the new legislation would give the President the right to interpret the constitution, determine the relationship between different branches of the administration, declare states of emergency, suspend the constitution and rule by decree, and appoint the Government and the judiciary.

It is a combination of roles which would make him, in the eyes of many, the most powerful and least accountable constitutional ruler in the world.

The Bill on the presidency also proposes the establishment of two new state bodies – a soviet (or council) of the federation, bringing together heads of all the Soviet Union's republics, and a presidential soviet to form and advise on policy. This is a role that has hitherto been the exclusive preserve of the party politburo and the change presents a direct threat to the power of the party if, as is likely, Mr Gorbachov eventually gives up the formal post of party leader.

The meeting of the Congress of People's Deputies could also decide to reword or even drop the now notorious Article Six from the Soviet constitution.

Article Six, which decrees the communist party to have the leading role in Soviet society, has become the target of reformists inside and outside the party, following the example of East European countries. Many people want nothing less than its total abolition, but January's Central Committee meeting decided to recommend only its rewording.

The future of Article Six was discussed by the Congress of People's Deputies at its regular session in December at the instigation of the late Dr Andrei Sakharov, but deputies were dissuaded from voting on anything more significant than whether to discuss the question. Now the Central Committee has given a lead, the Congress is likely at very least to accept the recommended wording which requires the Communist Party to justify and compete for its leading role. This would, theoretically, open the way eventually for a multi-party system.

The Bill on the executive presidency is likely to have a less troubled passage through the Congress of People's Deputies than it had at the Supreme Soviet. Four weeks ago, Mr Gorbachov failed to win the requisite two-thirds majority in the Supreme Soviet that would have allowed him to convene an extraordinary congress immediately. Deputies were unhappy about the speed with which he was trying to introduce so substantial a constitutional change.

However, two weeks ago – after a committee had drafted a definition of the new presidential powers and the necessary constitutional amendments – the Supreme Soviet finally approved both the idea of the presidency and the special congress, despite misgivings from several quarters.

Many Popular Front groups in the republics believe that the institution of a powerful state presidency could negate the greater autonomy they have been promised. This is believed to be why the Lithuanian parliament has brought forward its meeting on the question of independence to tomorrow, and in the southern repubic of Georgia yesterday about 4,000 people demonstrated in support of 30 people who have gone on hunger strike in protest against the new legislation.

In Moscow, members of Mr Boris Yeltsin's inter-regional group of parliamentarians have called for more constitutional curbs on the president's power, more wide-ranging grounds for impeachment (other than the single proposed reason: violation of the constitution), and for the first president, as well as subsequent ones, to be elected in nationwide elections. According to the draft, the first president can be elected by a majority of the Congress of People's Deputies – and probably will be so elected by the end of next week.

The inter-regional group has, however, been criticized for its tactics in voting for the presidency at all. Some believe that if they had opposed the move, sufficient deputies would have joined them to give Mr Gorbachov a choice between abandoning the idea or overriding the present constitution.

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Protest in Georgia

Moscow (Reuter) – About 4,000 people stood outside government and Communist Party offices in Tbilisi, capital of Soviet Georgia, yesterday to protest at President Gorbachov's plan to push through a new system of presidential rule. A spokesman for Tbilisi city council said by telephone the demonstrators included 30 hunger strikers.

Uneasy Bonn keen to stem flow of refugees

From Ian Murray
Bonn

West Germany is considering shutting the doors of its emergency temporary accommodation for East German refugees after the election on March 18.

The refugees are becoming more and more unpopular and resented, and politicians of all parties are looking at ways of keeping them out.

West Berlin was one of the first cities to refuse taking in any more.

"We were only too happy to take in people who were escaping from the old communist regime", said Herr Gottfried Hausburg, a taxi driver whose family fled to the West from Brandenburg in 1956. "Many of them had suffered for years before they managed to get out. But the ones coming now are motivated by money and not by the desire to be free.

" Many of them did nothing to overthrow the communists, but now that the Wall has come down they are taking advantage of it. They think our streets are paved with gold and they want to benefit from all the hard work we have done for years without doing anything themselves. Now they have a free vote they cannot possibly be described as refugees any more. They should stay home and work for their own money."

His hardline views are typical of the opinions that have formed as a result of the arrival of 400,000 East Germans since the Wall came down on November 9, and the threat of half a million more of them coming this year.

Yesterday, the leader of the Free Democrats in the Bundestag, Herr Wolfgang Mishnick, said that the emergency housing should be closed down after the election, while the Christian Democrats and Christian Social Union issued a public appeal in Dresden calling on people to stay home and work to set the country on its feet.

Apart from West Berlin and the city state of Bremen, dozens of towns and cities have already refused to accept more refugees. Of the 125,000 who have arrived so far this year only 10,000 have had a home to go to. The rest have had to go into emergency accomodation. The squalid camps, using converted containers, air raid shelters, ships, brothels and gymnasiums, are becoming violent and need extra policing.

Aware that the emergency accomodation is running out, East Germans have been preparing. All the caravans in the country have been bought up for the trek west this summer in a massive, new exodus which threatens to create serious social problems round West Germany's prosperous cities.

That is the certain belief of the team of experts working with Herr Walter Momper, West Berlin's Social Democrat Mayor, who has been touring the capitals of the four powers who govern his city to warn of the dangers ahead.

Herr Momper sees reunification of Berlin as the key to German reunification and he therefore feels the need to keep in the closest touch with the Allies who run the government – as of this week no longer "military" – which still rules the city.

He wants them to help him slow the apparent charge by Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, towards an unprepared unity.

He is making preparations for unity at regular meetings of the new Regional Committee, with representatives from both sides of the Wall. The group has been formed to try to solve the ever growing list of problems – from sewage disposal to railway systems – that affect the city and its surrounding area.

Such face-to-face meetings are important, not least because of the difficulty in communications. The telephone lines to East Berlin are so congested it is sometimes impossible for a call to get through all day long.

According to one aide, however, it is almost impossible to make meaningful progress about anything because "there is now nobody left who gives orders. They are all so used to obeying orders they do not know what to do when there is none so they sit around waiting for things to happen."

Nothing, however, is happening to improve living standards. There are virtually no local initiatives and West German aid so far is negligible compared to the scale of investment needed to repair the rotting East German infrastructure. The consequence, according to strong evidence collected by Herr Momper's team, is that people are preparing to leave *en masse* when the weather makes camping possible.

That means that West German cities face the prospect of slum settlements of East Germans mushrooming overnight, with the inevitable social consequences.

Herr Klaus Hätzel, who writes speeches for Herr Momper on social policy, believes that the pressure to leave will grow even more quickly after March 18.

"I think the population will ask the new Government to do a miracle a day and they won't be able to do a miracle a day. They can't turn water into wine. Then people will really start to leave. The curtain on democracy will go up and they will see that there is still a shortage of goods, that there is still mismanagement and that nothing will change quickly," he noted.

Herr Hätzel is one of a group of 12 experts from West Berlin who is exchanging jobs with officials in East Berlin. Before seeing the books, he is already aware that reunification will be a long and expensive business.

Bonn – For the first time since the Second World War German aircraft are to be allowed to fly across the inner German border, after an agreement with the four Allies involved (Ian Murray writes). Flights from Erlangen on to Dresden and Leipzig by Lufthansa and Interflug, the East German airline, will be start today.

A triumphant gesture at the Arc de Triomphe, Paris, from Mr Boris Yeltsin, Deputy of the Supreme Soviet, who was promoting his book, *Against the grain.*

Leading politician denies Stasi links

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

Herr Wolfgang Schnur, the leader of a conservative East German party, yesterday dismissed as a "Stalinist smear campaign" claims that he had worked as an informer for the East German security service.

Herr Schnur, the head of Democratic Awakening, one of the three parties making up the right-wing Alliance for Germany, said he had for a long time passed information to the Bonn Government on the East German regime's repression of political opponents.

This claim was later confirmed by a government spokesman in Bonn, who said that Herr Schnur, a prominent defence lawyer in the East, had "for years" been passing information which enabled West Germany to help political prisoners in the East.

The commission responsible for dissolving the Stasi, the East German security agency, said however that it had evidence that Herr Schnur had worked for the organization and had received financial rewards and commendations from the Ministry of State Security.

The lawyer, who defended opponents of the former regime, including the country's most famous clerical dissident, Herr Rainer Eppelmann, and the theatre director Freya Klier, is said by those dissolving the apparatus in Rostock, where he has his practice, to have passed details of his clients contacts and activities to the local Stasi.

It is still unclear if the rumours are the product of an election campaign which is daily gaining in bitterness and in which Herr Schnur has been a sharp and rather unpopular figure.

But Frau Freya Klier claimed yesterday that information she had given Herr Schnur had been used verbatim as evidence against her at her trial.

She was the last prominent opposition figure to be stripped of her citizenship.

Lithuania paper fears blockade may have begun

From Anatol Lieven, Vilnius

With a formal declaration of Lithuanian independence imminent, many Lithuanians are increasingly worried by the prospect of economic pressure from Moscow.

The statement by President Gorbachov on Tuesday that in the event of independence, Moscow would demand a total of 21 billion roubles (£21 billion) in reparations is seen as the prelude to a suspension of supplies of oil and raw materials.

This week the Lithuanian Communist Party newspaper, *Tiesa*, suggested than an economic blockade by Moscow has already begun – , citing failure to endorse foreign contracts and to supply essential goods and investment.

The article said Moscow is also constructing factories to produce goods in which Lithuanian plants currently enjoy a near monopoly in the Soviet Union, such as in the production of certain television parts.

The evidence given in the article was inconclusive – the examples cited could easily be the result of the economic chaos now afflicting the entire Soviet Union. Notable, however, was the pessimistic tone of the article, which pointed out that to cripple Lithuanian industry, Moscow does not have to impose a blockade – as this would attract international opprobrium.

Instead, it only had to create a crisis situation regarding its supplies of oil and raw materials. "As an independent state, we must expect that other states will seek their own economic advantage," the paper said.

Another article in *Tiesa* claimed that the new Lithuanian State Bank "cannot as yet carry out even the duties of a normal bank, let alone play a national role", if Moscow denies it the cash resources.

Tiesa's pessimism is dismissed by supporters of Sajudis as reflecting merely a desire of its sponsors, the Lithuanian Communist Party, to retain a share of power.

Mr Algirdas Brazauskas, the Lithuanian President and the First Secretary of the Communist Party, has frequently stated that economic independence was essential before political independence could be achieved, implying that this does not as yet exist.

Tiesa has been arguing that at such a crucial time, Lithuania desperately needs a man of Mr Brazauskas's calibre to negotiate with Moscow – an opinion which is shared by many ordinary Lithuanians.

Sajudis, however, appears to have decided to replace Mr Brazauskas as President, probably with Dr Vitautas Landsbergis, its chairman. But it is still possible that it may make Mr Brazauskas the Prime Minister.

Most economists in the region are in agreement that for the forseeable future all the economies of the Baltic states – despite their desire to press ahead with political independence – will be tied to the Soviet Union.

Professor Eduardas Vilkas, head of the Economic Institute in Vilnius and a staunch supporter of Lithuanian independence, is chairman of a commission of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow to negotiate on economic independence. He, too, is pessimistic about Lithuania's economic prospects in the medium term.

"Other economists may tell you joyful stories about making our economies independent, but I don't see any way of escaping our bad heritage," he said. Dr Vilkas pointed out that due to the republic's integration with the Soviet economy, only 4.5 per cent of all Lithuanian production is exported outside the Soviet Union.Forty per cent of the exports consist of oil from Mazeikiai.

"So if we were to break off relations with the Soviet Union, we'd have to shut down half our factories for lack of raw materials, and most of the rest for lack of markets."

Immigrant row

Jerusalem – The Israeli press has revealed "secret plans" to build a new Jewish suburb near the Arab village of Tsur Bahir, across the "green line" dividing East from West Jerusalem (Richard Owen writes). Mr David Levy, the Housing Minister, also said that 2,000 new flats would be built in East Jerusalem to accommodate immigrants from the Soviet Union. The disclosures will heighten tension with the US over the issue.

Optimism rises from grim images of Romania

During five visits to Romania since the Christmas revolution, I have seen for myself that the images on television, although not giving the whole picture, do not lie. Babies are dying of Aids; pollution in some cities is the worst in the world; food and medical shortages are appalling and political confusion is rife.

But I remain optimistic for the future of my country for four reasons that give us a head start over the East European nations which are also struggling to come to terms with the economic realities of freedom.

Despite the terrible price the people had to pay to achieve it, Romania is free of international debt. The $11 billion (£6.7 billion) bill has been paid and the slate is clean to start from scratch.

As a result of people confusing their hatred of communism with their hatred of Ceausescu, the Communist Party is dead and the restrictive effects it would have had on free enterprise are buried with it. An open market economy is possible.

The problem of how to get rid of Soviet troops does not exist because there are none on Romanian soil.

The tourist industry can be revived relatively quickly because Ceausescu could not destroy the mountains, the sun and the beaches on the Black Sea.

The last point is of particular importance because it can provide a source of foreign exchange soon. The infrastructure of hotels and holiday facilities is in place. They need a facelift and the staff need to be taught about service, but this can be learned much faster than how to handle a multi-party political system. Romania has never known democracy. Before communism we had a monarchy which followed 400 years of being sandwiched between the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian Empires.

But Romanians are a Latin people who, given the chance, exude warmth, happiness and humour. Offering hospitality to visitors will come as easily to them as it does to the Italians.

Political education will take more time. The urge to get rid of all senior people tainted with the communist brush is natural but would be counter-productive. There were four million members of the Communist Party under Ceausescu. The vast majority were not willing members. To eliminate all the scientists, teachers and technocrats from the workforce now would be a disaster.

President Iliescu and Mr Petre Roman, the Prime Minister, are dedicated to creating a democratic state with free elections and multiple parties. Even since my last visit, news has come that the Government has opened up the country to a free market economy in which foreign investment will not only be accepted but encouraged. This is the best news of all, providing we proceed with careful judgment.

Small businessmen are already everywhere in Bucharest. That is fine, up to a point. With the speed of events, there is a danger that we might choose the wrong partners. There are going to be rough times ahead and Romania needs partners who can stay the course. It is safer to go with the big corporations like Philips, Siemens, Mercedes, Renault or Fiat, who will not run when the first squall hits.

I have experienced during the past few weeks just how willing West German companies are to help. There were no refusals when I went to the sponsors of my sporting events. Every week for the past two months the small team of Romanians who work with me at our headquarters in Munich have been accompanying truck loads of food and medical supplies into Romania. It is a drop in the ocean, but by depositing the supplies ourselves at each hospital, school or factory, we know that they are reaching their proper destination.

The big electrical concern, RWE, was equally receptive. When I accompanied Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, to Bucharest in January, he quickly relayed permission to RWE to supply electricity. Suddenly, the country had normal light and heating, instead of for just two hours a day. For two months West Germany donated that energy free. Symbolically and literally, we were able to turn the lights back on.

It has, of course, been an emotional experience for all of us. I may have a home in Monte Carlo and offices in New York and Munich, but they say if you are born Romanian, you die Romanian. The last decade, naturally, was a nightmare. Although I have a family of uncles and cousins in Romania, I had only visited it once in those 10 years – for one day. In 1984, I went intending to stay two weeks and left after 24 hours. It was unbearable because everyone needed so much and under Ceausescu, there was nothing I could do.

It will take five years or more for the younger generation to start getting into positions of real influence, and only they might understand what democracy is all about. What the current generation has to grasp now – and union leadership in this is essential – is that democracy does not mean a better life for less work, but a better life *only* if you work harder. That is why we need partners, not charity.

● BUCHAREST: Mr Petre Roman, the Romanian Prime Minister, said yesterday that it would take five years to unravel Romania's Communist-imposed centralized economy and convert to a free market system (AP reports).

"We want to bring on the market consumer goods that the population is interested in, both from internal and external sources." Mr Roman told the Council of National Unity, the country's temporary parliament.

Mr Roman outlined the Government's economic recovery plan during a session scheduled to vote later on an electoral law governing May 20 elections.

Mr Roman noted that some political parties favour a crash program of conversion to a market economy, while others want a more gradual switch under the new government after the elections.

Nonetheless, he said the provisional government had started setting up the basis of a market economy through a decree which took effect on Thursday to promote free enterprise by allowing the establishment of private companies with up to 20 employees.

Ion Tiriac, the former Romanian Davis Cup tennis player and manager of Boris Becker, promotes numerous sporting events in West Germany. As a result, his extensive contacts with the German business community have enabled him to secure aid for his homeland – food, medicine, even two months free supply of electricity. Here he looks to the future of a country still struggling to emerge from its dark past.

COMMUNISM IN CRISIS

Kim Il Sung 'set to hand over' to his playboy son

From John Gittelsohn
Seoul

Despite all the portents from Eastern Europe the world may be about to witness the birth of the first communist dynasty.

President Kim Il Sung is reported to be ready to hand power next month to his son, Mr Kim Jong Il, who is known for his weakness for movie starlets and Japanese cars and stereos.

Quoting official Chinese sources, the Japanese Kyodo news agency reported yesterday from Peking that President Kim would step down to let his son and designated heir Mr Kim, aged 48, assume leadership after his 78th birthday on April 15.

"He will become North Korea's Deng Xiaoping," said one Chinese source, comparing the North Korean president to China's paramount leader who exercises his immense powers from behind the scenes.

An official was quoted as saying that President Kim was likely to relinquish power at an April 22 meeting of the Supreme People's Assembly, the congress of the North Korean Workers' Party. A South Korean official said the congress was being held six months ahead of schedule, a possible sign that the group would promote the younger Mr Kim.

A Western diplomat here noted, however, that rumours 10 years ago said the younger Kim would be named as North Korea's Vice-President, a promotion that never occurred. "It's pure speculation as far as I know," the diplomat said of the latest reports.

Known as "the Hermit Kingdom", North Korea remains one of the world's most closed societies.

President Kim has ruled the country since its foundation in 1948, making him the world's longest reigning leader and one of the last orthodox Stalinists in power.

His people revere him with such sobriquets as the great leader, peerless patriot, ingenious thinker, ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander, sun of the nation and red sun of the oppressed people. Despite his advanced years and a large goitre on his neck, President Kim appears to be in robust health.

The younger Mr Kim, known as the "Dear Leader", has been groomed as successor to his father since the early 1970s. But his eccentric behavior has led many observers to doubt his ability.

He is reputed to be a heavy drinker with a taste for high-heeled shoes, racy women, pornography, Hollywood films and international terrorism. He has never travelled overseas and he completely vanished from public view for six months last year.

"The length of time he disappears is not reassuring," a senior Western diplomat here said. "If he were a full-blown candidate he'd be everywhere."

He has never served in the military and lacks his father's credentials as a soldier.

South Korean riot police dragging a woman away outside the National Assembly in Seoul after she demanded compensation for the injuries inflicted on her husband in a labour camp.

Echoes of the Cultural Revolution

Peking revives a ghostly hero

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

In the past few weeks, China's leaders have masterminded the near-religious revival of a 1960s personality cult aimed at filling a vacuum of faith.

The regime has resurrected Lei Feng, a young soldier who died in 1962 in a state of unquestioning devotion to the Communist Party. Anyone walking Peking's streets could be forgiven for thinking he has slipped back a quarter of a century to the days before the Cultural Revolution.

Lei Feng's boyishly handsome face beams blandly in chalk from a blackboard at a bus stop. Red banners proclaim that the spirit of Lei Feng is welcoming the Asian Games — to be held in Peking in September. Desks set up by the roadside to "serve the people" in memory of Lei Feng offer free haircuts or bicycle repairs. Few people take up the offer, and the tables stand like unattended altars. The Chinese have seen it all before.

The main item on the radio news might be a 20-minute sermon on Lei Feng's good Samaritan deeds, rendered in hushed tones of reverence, or with the fervour of an evangelical preacher. "Where there is thirst, Lei Feng brings water; where there is hunger, he brings food; where there is cold, he brings warmth ... Lei Feng's spirit will live forever," a narrator intones.

Lei Feng never engaged in combat. He came of the perfect pedigree, downtrodden and exploited. He started at an early age to help the poor and needy. Mysteriously, a photographer was always present when he did a good deed, and Lei Feng kept a diary of his charitable activities.

Lei Feng was killed at the conveniently young age of 22 by a falling telegraph pole which had been toppled by an army truck. His diary was "discovered", and Mao announced on March 5, 1963, that everyone should "learn from Lei Feng". The Lei Feng campaign became part of the Cultural Revolution.

But in the years after the fall of the Gang of Four in 1976, Lei Feng was put aside, his name rarely mentioned. His unquestioning faith in the Communist Party and his apparent lack of independent thinking sat uneasily with the move towards modernisation and pragmatism.

The reasons for his second coming are clear. The party suffered a near-fatal blow to its prestige when it ordered troops to open fire on peaceful demonstrators last June. The regime is now trying to salvage the party's credibility by getting back to the roots of socialism — service to one's fellow man.

Lei Feng's image was not blighted by the massacre. But it has since been compromised by some leaders, who have said that his spirit helped in the crushing of the "counter-revolutionary rebellion".

One soldier who was in the front line last June has been posthumously lauded as another Lei Feng.

But the Lei Feng cult is not confined to the dead. These days a shy young soldier named Zhang Zixiang is being introduced to Chinese workers and others as "the Living Lei Feng".

His lieutenant-colonel yells in a parade ground voice as the young soldier walks awkwardly towards a group of hard-hatted construction workers who are regarding him with suspicion: "This is the man Premier Li Peng said you should all study. He's the man you've read about in the papers."

The workers confess they have never heard of him but stand bemused as Zhang makes tentative conversation and a photographer clicks away at the proof of the living Lei Feng mixing with the masses.

Zhang is aged 30, married, with one son. His short hair is brushed flat across his forehead and his green uniform trousers are extremely baggy.

He has a friendly bony face and a shy but engaging smile. Clearly nervous about his first interview with foreign journalists, he notes down every question in pencil.

He insists that he is "just a soldier", his father is "just a citizen". Zhang's colonel, realizing that reticence on these subjects is unnecessary, reveals that Zhang is in fact a sergeant and his father was a farmer.

"I'm a Communist Party member, and proud of it," Zhang says, and he staunchly defends Lei Feng's unquestioning faith in the party. "Yes, there were people who said Lei Feng was a fool, and there are those who say I'm a fool. But if I can do things for the people, I'm happy to be an idiot like Lei Feng."

Zhang has never seen combat and he shifts uneasily in his armchair when he is asked about the Peking massacre. Asked whether Lei Feng would have shot people on June 4, or would have helped to take the wounded to hospital, Zhang seems torn between the politically correct answer that he would have obeyed orders and his human instinct.

Eventually, he says desperately: "The shooting was only at a few ruffians, and in self-defence."

East Berlin (Reuter) — Mr Zhambyn Batmunkh, the leader of Mongolia's Communist Party, said yesterday that the party Politburo will resign on Monday in response to pro-democracy protests, the East German agency, ADN, said.

Democracy ship starts to make waves

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

Just as diplomatic relations between France and China were beginning to improve, the good ship Goddess of Democracy threatens a renewed bout of hostilities.

Officially named in the port of La Rochelle yesterday, she will soon be bound for the China coast from where, safely outside Peking's territorial waters, Chinese dissidents will bombard the masses with round-the-clock "pro-democratic" radio programmes.

Although official sources here are adamant that not a sou of government money is involved in the "Boat for China" project, the hapless French Ambassador in Peking has already been summoned to receive yet another frosty rebuke (his sixteenth, by some counts) about the activities of Chinese dissidents who made Paris their capital in exile after the Tiananmen Square massacre last June.

At the Chinese Embassy, where dissidents called earlier this week to announce their intentions, a spokesman has furiously denounced "this subversive and provocative act" and accused the organizers — notably Mr Wuer Kaixa, the prominent dissident who heads the Federation for Democracy in China — of being "criminals wanted by the police".

There is understandable concern in government circles that the voyage of the Goddess of Democracy, a 1,200-tonne ship equipped with one television and two radio studios, could make waves that will swamp French hopes of restoring more-or-less correct relations with Peking.

Earlier this month, M Michel Rocard, the French Prime Minister, disclosed that there has been a slow but steady growth of relations between Paris and Peking.

Bomb plot man jailed 20 years

Paris (Reuter) — Fouad Ali Saleh, aged 31, a Tunisian-born Frenchman and pro-Iranian Muslim fundamentalist, accused of killing 13 people in bomb attacks in Paris in 1985 and 1986, was jailed for 20 years for conspiracy to commit terrorist acts, drug trafficking and illegal possession of explosives.

Coup charges

Manila (AFP) - Three dismissed military officers have been charged with rebellion and murder for ordering the bombing of the presidential palace and military headquarters during December's failed coup in the Philippines.

Foreign post

Nairobi (AFP) — President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya has appointed Mr Wilson Ndolo Ayah to replace Robert Ouko, the Foreign Minister whose murder provoked anti-government riots last month.

Hawke defiant

Sydney (Reuter) — Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister accused of avoiding economic reality in his Labor Party election platform, has brushed off the threat of a 24-hour strike by metalworkers.

Raid deaths

Beirut (Reuter) — Israeli aircraft killed one Palestinian and wounded two in an attack on guerrilla bases in northern Lebanon.

Ortega pledge

Managua (Reuter) — President Ortega of Nicaragua has unconditionally promised to hand over power to the pro-US alliance that won last month's elections.

Rabta plant controversy

UK firm in talks to manage site

By David Sapsted and Alan George

A London-based businessman behind the construction of a complex in Libya which Western governments have branded a centre for chemical weapons production, said yesterday that he was negotiating with a leading British company to manage the site.

The claim by Dr Ihsan Barbouti, a wealthy Iraqi who runs a web of business interests from an office in Chelsea, came just 48 hours after Mr Marlin Fitzwater, the spokesman for President Bush, said the plant at Rabta was already producing poison gas and that US military action to stop it had not been ruled out.

Dr Barbouti and Colonel Gadaffi's regime have always maintained that the chemical plant at the Rabta "Technology Centre", 50 miles south of Tripoli, was solely involved in the production of pharmaceuticals. Yesterday, Dr Barbouti, an architect, described claims that the centre was capable of producing chemical weapons as nonsense.

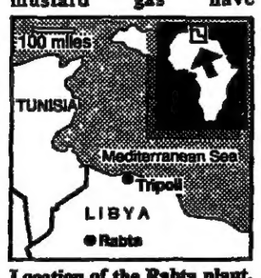
"I am not 100 per cent but 200 per cent sure that these reports are nothing," said Dr Barbouti, aged 62, whose application for British citizenship was turned down by the Home Office early last year.

"As far as I know, the plant is not complete. I know, for example, there is no water supply system and, even if the plant were complete, there are no competent engineers to operate it."

Dr Barbouti added: "I have had two or three meetings with a well-known UK engineering company to manage the complex."

However, he refused to identify the company, or to say whether he was conducting the negotiations on his or Libyan initiative.

Western governments contradict his assertion that the complex, known as Pharma 150, is intended solely for the production of pharmaceuticals. Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told Parliament last year that the Government believes Rabta is intended for the large-scale production of chemical weapons, while US intelligence sources and the West German secret service, BND, estimate that up to 50 tonnes of mustard gas have been produced there since the middle of 1989.



Location of the Rabta plant. Right, Dr Ihsan Barbouti.

Dr Barbouti, who was awarded the contract to build the complex in 1984, is a key figure in West German police investigations into allegations of a large-scale involvement of German firms in Rabta's construction, and the supply of materials in contravention of German export laws.

IBI (Ihsan Barbouti International) Engineering GmbH, a firm operating from Frankfurt until Dr Barbouti sold it in the summer of 1988, was the prime contractor at Rabta. It awarded construction to another West German firm, Imhausen-Chemie, whose managing director has been in custody since last May.

Dr Barbouti has suggested in the past that he knew nothing of Imhausen-Chemie; that his company pulled out of Rabta in June, 1987; and that the Libyans themselves built the chemical plant.

Documents obtained by *The Times*, however, clearly show that, far from the companies not knowing each other, IBI authorized three Imhausen executives to act as their consultants and that the two organizations were still in contact over Pharma 150 at least as late as October, 1987.

Intelligence sources in Washington believe that, from the outset, Pharma 150 was designed and built as a chemical weapons plant, although Dr Barbouti denies this. He said yesterday that he last visited Libya in 1988.

Rhein-Maas-Seekontor, a West German shipping firm, has admitted shipping 60 tonnes of phosphortrichloride, a key ingredient of mustard gas, to Libya. Other consignments are said to have been re-routed to the Gadaffi regime when they were ostensibly en route to a dummy Hong Kong company.

Dr Barbouti's business deals include efforts to buy a cosmetic company in France. Last year, the Government disclosed that an investigation by Customs and Excise officials showed that there had been no breach of British export controls by Dr Barbouti's UK companies.

The Rabta complex itself is situated in a remote area some 50 miles south of Tripoli. When journalists, including a reporter from *The Times*, were taken there a year ago amid US allegations of chemical weapons production, they were allowed to see Pharma 150 from a distance but forbidden from entering it. The original design included a foundry, a plastic moulding workshop, engineering and maintenance depots.

Dr Barbouti said in an interview last year that the securing of the contract had dramatically changed his fortunes. "I left for Libya on March 13, 1984. I remember that day because it changed my life. Hitherto, I had made pennies; now I made millions," he was reported as saying.

The father of four children, Dr Barbouti describes himself as stateless. The headquarters of IBI Incorporated (UK) Ltd are in Sloane Avenue, London, SW3, the company having been set up in January, 1987, by which time the Rabta contract was well underway.

The most recent, publicly-recorded balance sheet for the company was for the year ending January 31, 1988. It recorded a net deficit of £1,728.

Hollywood heir accused of film-script killing of parents

From Charles Bremner, New York

The eldest son of a prominent Hollywood executive has been charged with murdering both his parents in an alleged scheme inspired by a screenplay about the perfect murder, written by his younger brother.

The arrest of Mr Lyle Menendez, aged 22, closed a chapter in one of Hollywood's most shocking murders in recent years. The mutilated bodies of José Enrique Menendez, aged 45, the Cuban-born head of Live Entertainment Inc, one of the biggest video distributors, and his wife, Kitty, aged 44, were found last August in their Beverly Hills mansion. Police speculated at the time that the Mafia could have been involved.

Police said on Thursday that Mr Lyle Menendez's arrest came after fresh evidence from his Hollywood psychiatrist. An arrest warrant was issued for his brother, Eric, aged 19, who was taking part in a professional tennis tournament in Israel.

Commissioner Marvin Iannone, the Beverly Hills police chief, said: "I've been in this business for 30 years and I've never seen a murder as savage as this one."

According to police sources, Mr Eric Menendez once co-wrote a 66-page screenplay about committing the perfect murder. His mother helped to type the sometimes intricate and confusing play, entitled "Friends," which centres on the criminal exploits of a pampered youth with a fascination for dying. The two sons were the sole beneficiaries of the couple's $17-million (£10.6-million) estate, police said.

The sons reported finding their parents' bodies after returning from a night out. Menendez was shot eight times from a distance of about 3ft. His wife was hit by five shotgun blasts.

Menendez had arrived in the United States in 1960 at the age of 16, sent from Cuba by parents who were worried that he would become a communist if he remained on the island. He made his name turning Carolco Pictures, the entertainment company that put out the Rambo films, into a highly profitable concern. His last firm, Live Entertainment Inc, was one of the biggest video distributors.

Keats' museum searches for ideal Englishman

From Richard Bassett, Rome

Sir Joseph Cheyne: One of shrewdest fund-raisers.

The most fastidiously kept 18th-century house in Rome needs a member of that increasingly rare species: an Englishman abroad.

Preferably fluent in Italian, with impeccable academic credentials, the successful candidate should also have the ability to cut a sufficient dash in Rome to raise funds for a great institution, in this case the house where the great English poet Keats died.

The house is known to surprisingly few of the millions of tourists who, each year walk past No 26 Piazza di Spagna. Inside, they would find a world remote from the bustle of the Spanish Steps a few yards away. Here, even in the hottest July afternoon, there is preserved the calm of 19th-century England.

In one of the rooms, the finest library of English romantic literature anywhere on the Continent has survived two world wars, threatened demolition and almost certain bankruptcy.

In another room, the poet's death mask gazes on unperturbed by the chic girls who clatter past outside, hamburgers in hand from the nearby McDonald's.

Those who venture inside No 26 come away convinced that they have seen without doubt a jewel even among Rome's many spectacular museums.

But this year the normally cool pace of life in the house is set to change as the present curator, Sir Joseph Cheyne, retires. When Sir Joseph took over in 1976, the museum was facing almost certain financial ruin. Its annual turnover had sunk to 12 million lire (£6,000), its facade was dilapidated and urgent repairs threatened bankruptcy.

But in an amazing reversal of fortunes, by the time Sir Joseph retires in a few months, the turnover of the house will have increased to 200 million lire a year (£100,000) and the facade will have been restored to an immaculate, if fruity, pink.

"There's no doubt that the Great God — and of course the poets have all been with us on our side over the years," Sir Joseph, silver haired in a battered tweed coat, says.

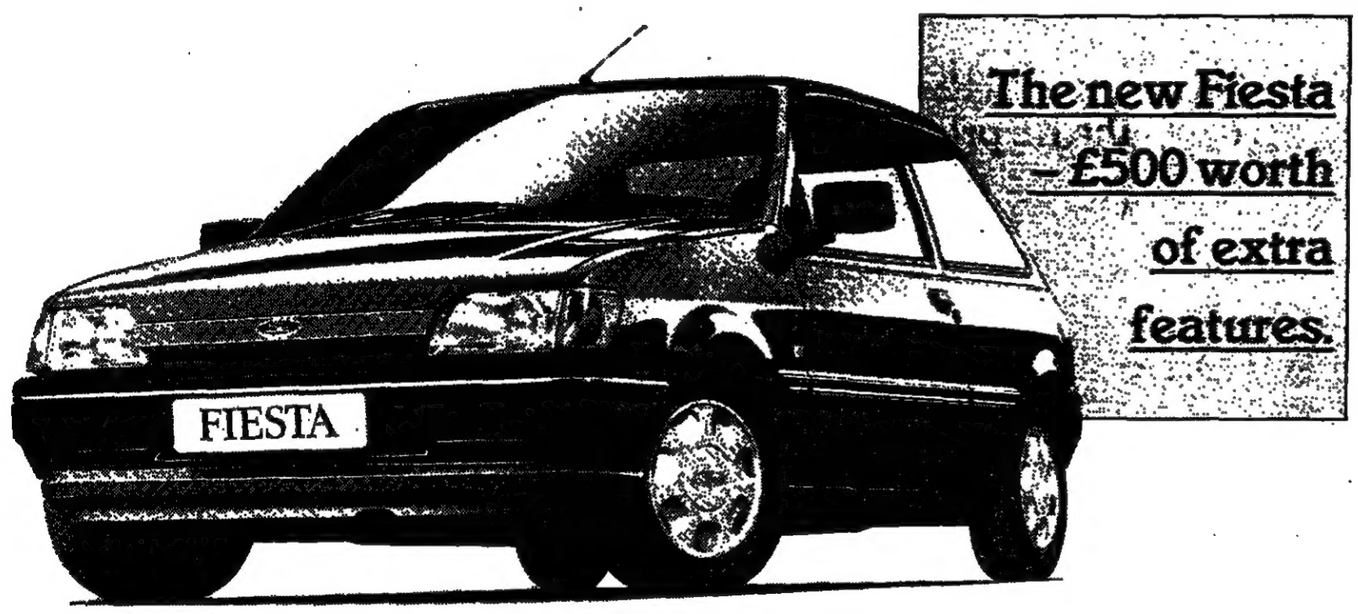
Beneath his Edwardian calm, there lies one of the shrewdest fund raisers in Italy.

But despite a flood of applications for his post, finding a suitable candidate may be quite difficult.

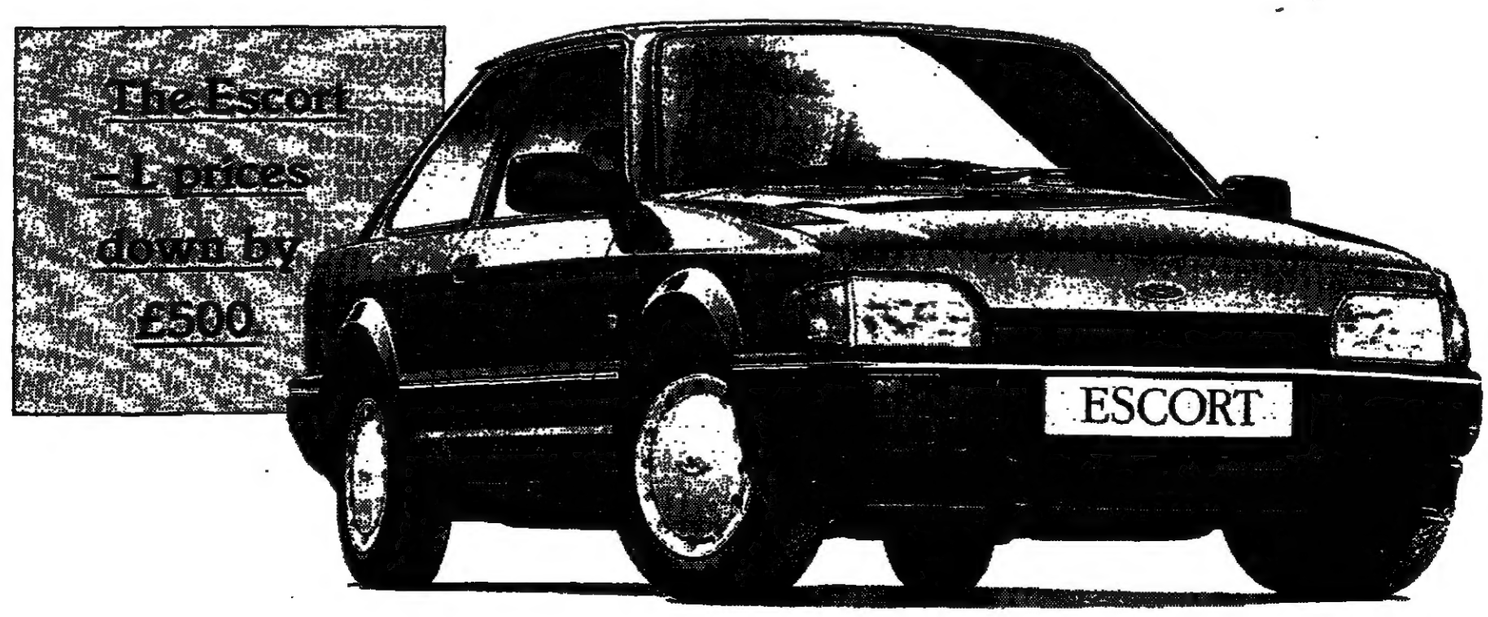
Although traditionally, the post has been filled by an Englishman, many believe that the strongest candidates may come from the United States.

Ford presents five budget proposals.

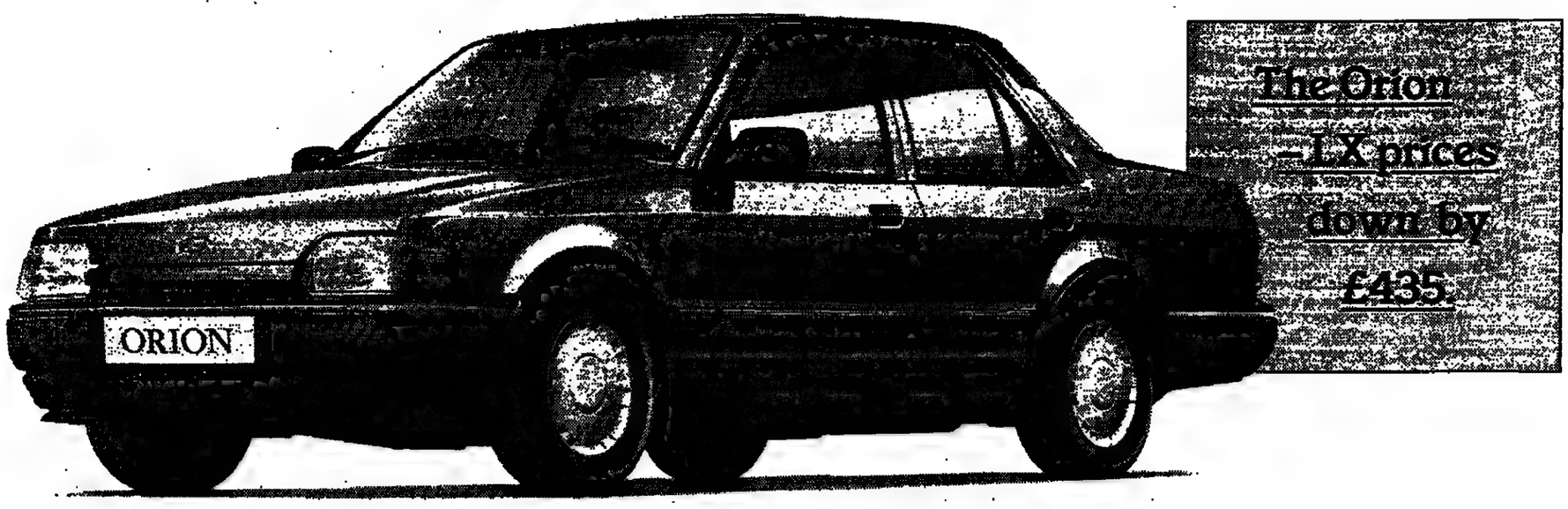
With a budget just around the corner, is this any time to be buying a new car? Well it is if it's a Ford. Cars have never been better value with LX models for the price of the L. Cars have never been easier to buy with Ford Credit giving you a choice of 0% **(nil APR)** or finance commencing at 3.9% **(7.5% APR).** And on top of all that Ford has taken £500 off the maximum retail price of Escort and Orion Ls. In short, it all adds up to a major opportunity to budget for a new car before the budget.



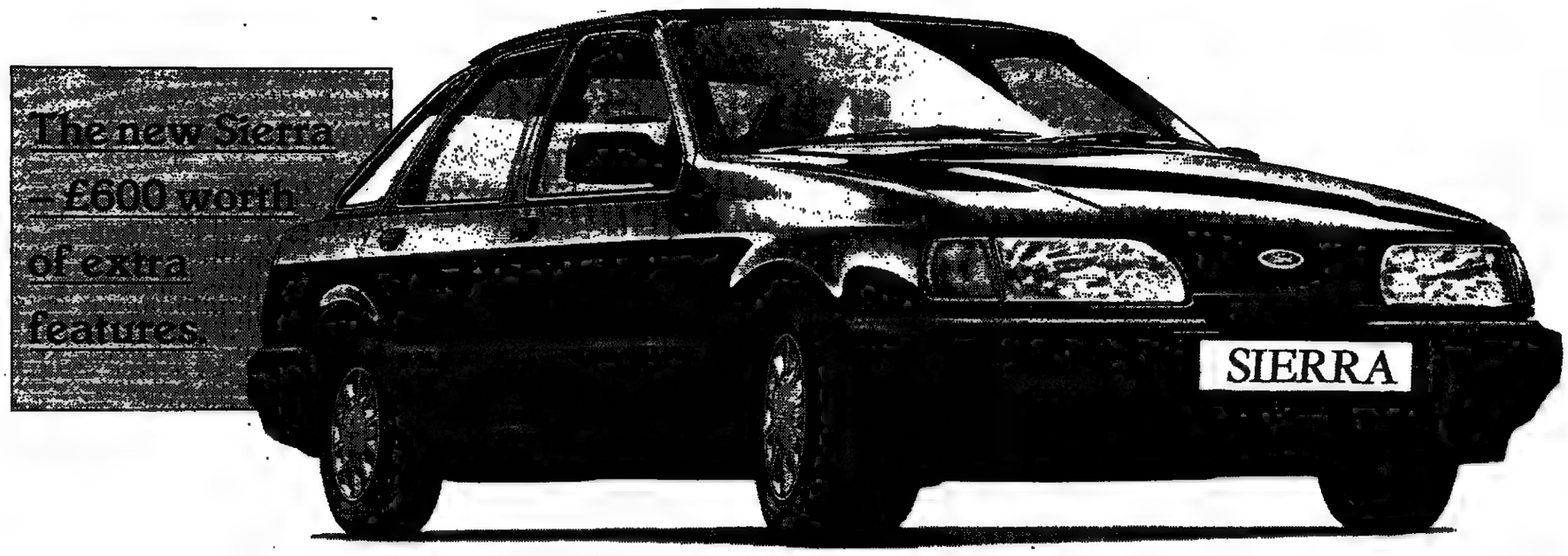
- **For Britain's best selling small car:**
- **The LX has replaced the L. It has the L's price tag but you get £500 worth of extra features over the old L (at maximum retail prices).**
- **Finance starting at 3.9% (7.5% APR) is available on certain models until March 15th.**



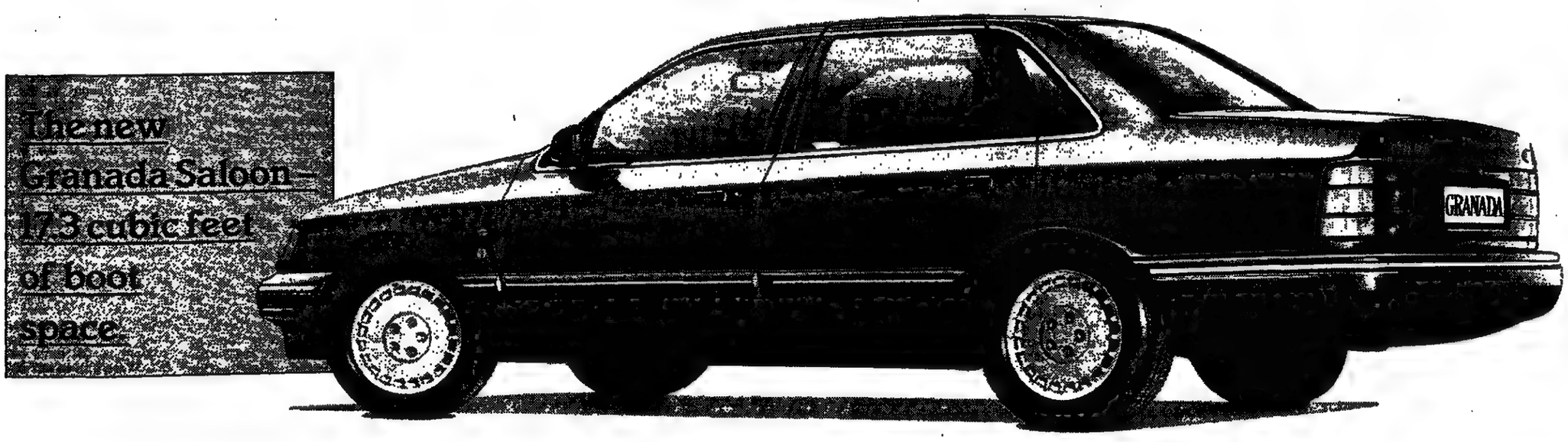
- **Britain's most popular car is about to become even more popular:**
- **The L price* has been reduced by £500 and the price* of the LX by £477.**
- **0% (nil APR) finance now available on all models. But hurry, must end March 15th.**



- More reasons why the Orion is The classic saloon:
- The LX price* has been reduced by £435 and the price* of the L by £500.
- Full range of finance plans include 0% (nil APR) finance across all models if you're quick.



- More reasons why there is only one Sierra:
- The LX has replaced the L. It has the L's price tag but you get £600 worth of extra features over the old L (at maximum retail prices).
- New models across the range including the LX, GLX, Sapphire Ghia 4x4, Sierra Cosworth 4x4.
- Until March 15th, finance plans starting at 3.9% (7.5% APR) are available on certain models.



- For Britain's best selling executive car:
- New saloon version introduced across the range to complement our hatchback.
- Ford's award winning Anti-lock braking systems (ABS) on all models.

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As part of Ford's Aftercare package, all models come with one year's free RAC membership, free glass etching, security coded radios, 6 year corrosion assurance, and replacement car for up to 7 days if your Ford is stolen in the first year.

For a catalogue or the address of your nearest Ford dealer call the Ford Information Service free on 0800 01 01 12.

*Refers to maximum retail prices as at February 22nd 1990, including delivery. Delivery is to dealer premises with the exception of the Channel Islands and the Isle of Wight, when a further charge will be made. All finance plans are subject to credit approval and apply to all qualifying models registered between now and March 15th 1990 and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers, who will supply written credit details on request. All finance plans are underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, The Drive, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3AR. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Guarantees and indemnities may be required.

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

The great thing about golf, so golfing people constantly tell me, is that it allows them to get out into the countryside. Now I learn that one of the last great wilderness areas of Western Europe — Coto Donana, south of Seville — is threatened by a proposed holiday resort for 32,000 people that would include the largest golf complex on the continent. The problem is the likely effect on the water table.

The Coto Donana national park is home each winter to 10,000 flamingos. It has major colonies of heron, egret, spoonbill and avocet. All would be at risk if the park's wetlands were destroyed. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is leading the opposition to the project. Laurence Rose, senior international officer, said: "The scheme should not go ahead without a public assessment of its environmental impact. Without such an assessment, or if the assessment finds that it would damage Coto Donana, the scheme is unacceptable."

With spring and Cheltenham in the air, my racing snout leaps into action after his winter's slumber and offers four tips for the National Hunt Festival. Try Stone Flake in the Triumph Hurdle, and Fort Noel in the Sun Alliance Novice Hurdle. If the going is pretty firm on Tuesday, Kribensis is the boy for the Champion Hurdle. But if mud is up to their eyeballs on Thursday, have an each-way flutter on Nick The Brief in the Gold Cup, even against the great Desert Orchid.

This being the column that supports goalkeepers, I send greetings to Paul Robbins of Hoddesden Town. Robbins is normally a centre forward, but on a gaudy night in the semi-final of the Herts Senior Trophy, he turned goalkeeper and tasted triumph. The match against Park Street had finished at 1-1 after extra time, and a penalty shoot-out was held. Tony Tillbrook, Hoddesden's regular goalie, saved the third penalty, but the referee said he had moved, and ordered the kick to be retaken. In the subsequent kerfuffle, Tillbrook was sent off, Robbins took the jersey, and promptly saw his side fall behind 2-3. Disaster and defeat were seconds away. Then the god of misrule that looks after madmen, drunks and goalies took over: Robbins's first two touches as a goalkeeper were to save two successive penalties. Hoddesden scored from their own kicks, and won the shoot-out 4-3.

BARRY FANTONI

'Of course, he's had a lot of experience highlighting the plight of people huddling together under one roof'

The Iditarod, the sled dog race across Alaska, has always been a favourite event of this column. This year I hear that because deep snow has made grazing difficult, moose are particularly aggressive. Rick Swenson, the only "musher" to have won the race four times, was in the lead and heading for a river crossing when he realized that a moose was making for the same place. It was a collision course, and the meeting was an unhappy one: the moose turned on the team of dogs, and set about trampling them. Swenson retreated to the the town of McGrath for repairs, and saw his rivals, including the great Susan Butcher, sweep past. Later a bush pilot reported seeing a moose having a go at another team. The race, which started last weekend, lasts a fortnight or even longer, depending on whether conditions are horrific or merely appalling. It runs from Anchorage to Nome on the Bering Sea coast, and takes the mushers across frozen rivers, tundra and mountain passes. It comes close to making the Round the World Yacht Race look like a pleasant option.

Mrs Thatcher, one of the more confrontational of British games players, went yesterday to Ibrox, home of Glasgow Rangers football club, to make the draw for the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup. The lady obviously has a taste for Scottish football: you may recall that in 1988 she presented the Scottish Cup. Indeed, the Celtic fanzine carried a front-cover picture of the event: Mrs T presenting the trophy to the Celtic captain, Roy Aitken. A prophetic *Private Eye*-style bubble emerges from Aitken's mouth: "I'm still not going to pay my poll tax."

Israel's path to suicide

On the eve of a crucial Cabinet meeting, Ariel Sharon sets out the conditions he considers essential before talks with the Palestinians

Jerusalem

I resigned from the Israeli Cabinet last month because I fear that its present political initiatives, even if founded on a sincere attempt to achieve peace, reward the Palestinians for their terrorism, and increase the risks of war.

Israel should immediately put an end to the terrorism of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has claimed hundreds of innocent Jewish and Arab victims in the last two years alone.

The government's initiatives include movement toward Palestinian elections in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. These moves are paving the way for the establishment of a second Palestinian state in the land of Israel, west of the Jordan River, in addition to the existing one, the Kingdom of Jordan.

But there can be no democratic elections; because of the PLO's ongoing terrorism, the state would undoubtedly be created by the PLO. Such a state would control strategic mountainous terrain on the West Bank overlooking the coastal plain. This means that the width of Israel's coastal plain (where two-thirds of the Jewish population live) would shrink to an average of about 14 miles. This would constitute a death sentence, for Israel's main infrastructure would be at the mercy of Palestinian and Arab missiles, rockets and artillery, as well as terrorism and a large-scale conventional invasion.

The government's policies are also leading to a renewed division of Israel's sovereign and eternal capital, Jerusalem.

Predictably, the Arab states will take our policies as an indication of weakness, and will begin a campaign of military aggression. The continuing war between Israel and the Arab states (apart from Egypt) has no logic or justification.

If regional peace is to be reached — in the near future, I hope — it can be achieved only if the following conditions are met. First, opening the bridges between Israel and Jordan. Second, democratization of the totalitarian regimes in the Arab countries. Third, reduction and equalization of the military might of the two parties. Fourth, a solution to the problem of Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip. Fifth, conclusion of a formal peace treaty between Israel and the Arab states.

The long-term pressure exerted by the US has undoubtedly contributed to the political tremors in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Today a similar US effort must be directed towards the Arab regimes, for the best guarantee of peace is democracy in the Middle East.

A stable peace can be achieved only by a drastic reduction of the military threat. Surely we can reduce and equalize the military strength of the two parties, just as relations between Nato and the Warsaw Pact are undergoing a historic change. The long-range arms systems should be reduced first, followed by tactical forces such as armour and combat aircraft. The aim would be to return to the force levels of the 1950s, when the mutual military threat was minimal.

Middle East disarmament must be dealt with at the global level. In contrast to the Soviet Union, which is reducing its armed forces, the Arab states are escalating the regional arms race. Their tremendous purchasing power and the surpluses created by the force-reduction agreements in Europe are making disarmament more difficult to accomplish.

Putting pressure on Israel to resolve the differences with its neighbours without first guaranteeing democracy and disarmament throughout the Arab world amounts to asking Israel to be prepared to commit suicide for the sake of peace.

A more fruitful approach would be to work out interim procedures so that Israel and the Arab states can test each other and gradually build mutual trust. For example, it is necessary to open the bridges between Israel and Jordan immediately, just as the Berlin Wall was pulled down and the barbed wire removed from Eastern Europe.

With the Jordan River bridges open, free traffic in both directions would help create a climate of peace. Instead of symbolizing division and suspicion, the river would be a link signifying hope of talks between the two sides.

The Arabs cynically chose to turn the Palestinian refugee problem into a political weapon. The US, European countries and Israel must work together to assist these refugees. It is possible to start toward this goal by urbanizing and industrializing the Gaza Strip, where hundreds of thousands of refugees live.

Several Arab countries could well be the first to enjoy the dividends of peace if my programme is instituted. Egypt, for example, is undergoing a chronic and ever more acute economic crisis. Why is it using a large part of its US aid for military growth? Why does it need to maintain a gigantic army? Why does it need the 700 new tanks the US is about to give it free? Who is threatening Egypt, especially now that Colonel Gadaffi, the Libyan leader, is its close friend? Jordan, too, is undergoing a crisis and is investing vast amounts in armaments. Against whom will these arms be used? Israel?

One of my intentions in resigning from the Cabinet was to make sure no one in the future will be able to ask why no member of the government's inner circle stood up in time to sound a warning about what is likely to happen (as they now ask of the Jewish leaders of Europe in the 1930s and America in the 1940s).

Freed from cabinet restraints, I am trying to exploit the golden opportunities that result from the relaxation of international tensions, so that Israel can move further down the road toward peace.

More than 13 Likud members of the Knesset who share my opposition to policies advanced by the prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, have been working with me, and with two Cabinet ministers, to try to push the peace process the right way.

The proposed summit meeting of the Israeli, Egyptian and US foreign ministers is the wrong approach. It would not encourage peace, but lead to false expectations and still more bloodshed.

Ulster: suspend the agreement

Conor Cruise O'Brien urges the Government to heed a Dublin court ruling that challenges the existence of the United Kingdom

Dublin

The Irish Supreme Court last week delivered an important judgment concerning interpretation of Article 1 of the Anglo-Irish Agreement. From this judgment it appears that this Article means quite different things to the Irish and the British signatories.

In Article 1 (a) both parties "affirm that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would only come about with the consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland". At the time of the signature of the agreement, it was widely assumed in Britain, and internationally, that the status of Northern Ireland is that of a part of the United Kingdom. But it is now clear that Northern Ireland enjoys no such status in the laws of the Republic, for in the opinion of its highest legal authorities, the only legitimate jurisdiction in the island of Ireland is that of the government in Dublin.

Furthermore, that government has a duty to substitute its own legitimate jurisdiction for the illegitimate jurisdiction of the United Kingdom at the earliest possible date. Delivering the unanimous judgment of his court in this matter, Chief Justice Finlay declared that "the reintegration of the national territory is a constitutional imperative".

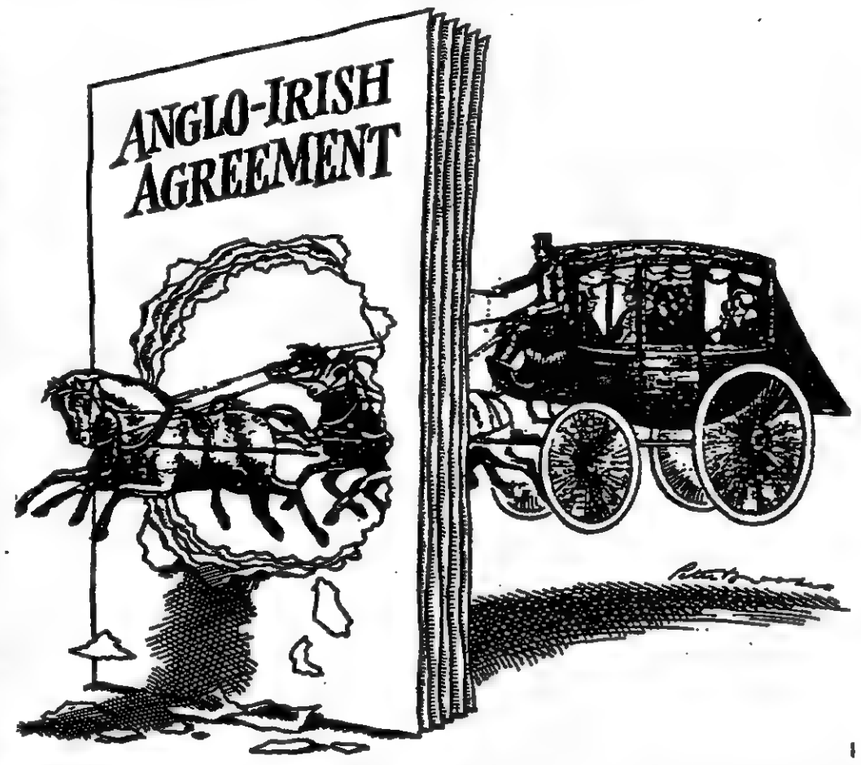
The Chief Justice was referring to Articles 2 and 3 of the 1937 Constitution of Ireland. Article 2 reads: "The national territory consists of the whole island of Ireland, its islands and the territorial seas." Article 3 asserts the right of jurisdiction of the Irish state over the whole island of Ireland, and suspends this "pending the reintegration of the national territory".

So the Anglo-Irish Agreement is an agreement between two parties, each claiming the right of jurisdiction over the same territory. One of the parties is under a "constitutional imperative" to substitute its own jurisdiction for that of the other in the disputed territory, and so must use the Anglo-Irish Agreement towards that end.

Furthermore, the party in possession of the disputed territory is assenting to the agreement being used in that way, for, when it signed the agreement, it was aware of the provisions of the Irish Constitution.

I wonder whether there is a historical precedent for an international agreement with this particular cluster of characteristics?

When the agreement was signed, Mrs Thatcher repeatedly declared that it did not weaken, but actually strengthened, the union between Great Britain and Northern Ireland. She clearly meant what she said, but the claim is untenable. The union in question cannot possibly be strengthened by a consultative partnership between the government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and a government that is constitutionally obliged to work towards the dissolution of that kingdom.



It seems to have been assumed on the British side, that the *de jure* claims in the Irish Constitution had somehow become inoperative. Soon after the agreement came into force, Tom King, then Northern Ireland Secretary, said the Irish government had given up its claim to the unity of the island. That statement had to be withdrawn, at the request of Garret FitzGerald, the Irish prime minister, but may still have been felt to be substantially true.

It is not true, however. If there were ever any doubt about that, it has to be removed by the Irish Supreme Court's unanimous decision of March 1, 1990, in the case of Christopher McGimpsey and Michael McGimpsey (plaintiffs) *v.* Ireland and Others (defendants). In particular, Chief Justice Finlay's finding that "the reintegration of the national territory is a constitutional imperative" establishes that Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution of Ireland cannot be treated as irrelevant to the operation of the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

By entering into that agreement while Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution remained in force, Mrs Thatcher's government made a serious mistake. As a general principle it may be affirmed that no government should conclude an agreement concerning a part of its territory with another government that is laying claim to that territory. A government which breaches that principle inescapably gives the impression that it is on the way towards accepting the other government's claim. That is exactly the impression that was created in Ireland by the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which is why it infuriated the Unionists.

As Professor Tom Wilson points out in the chapter on "The Anglo-Irish Agreement" in his admirable recent book, *Ulster: Conflict and Consent* (Blackwell), the reception of the Anglo-Irish Agreement would have been "transformed" if it had been preceded by a referendum in the Republic which led to the abolition of Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution. The people of Northern Ireland were never consulted about that constitution, and its claim to a right of jurisdiction over their territory is profoundly offensive to most of them. So an Anglo-Irish Agreement understood on the Irish side to incorporate that constitutional claim must give equal offence.

One must also consider the effect of such an agreement on the IRA, which is killing people in order to enforce the claim contained in Article 2. By accepting an agreement compatible with that claim, the British government has suggested to the IRA that it is moving, gradually and obliquely, towards acceptance of its claim, and towards abandoning the Unionists of Northern Ireland (and the nationalists too) to their fate.

Nothing has done more to help the IRA to continue murdering than the British government's habit of implying that it may be on the way out of Northern Ireland. The Anglo-Irish Agreement, in relationship with Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution, embodies that implication. If after last week's decision of the Irish Supreme Court, the British government continues to operate the agreement, with partners whom it now knows to be under that particular "constitutional imperative", then the impression that Britain's days in Northern Ireland are numbered will be strengthened, and so, proportionately, will the IRA.

The right thing to do is to suspend the operation of the Anglo-Irish Agreement pending a referendum in the Republic on Articles 2 and 3. What is more likely is that the British government will ignore the Supreme Court decision, as the British media appear to have done. That is a dangerous course.

Michael Kinsley

Who beat Ortega?

Washington

Two years ago, after Congress cut off all US support for the Contra war in Nicaragua, President Reagan declared: "Those who led the fight against our package of assistance to the democratic resistance cannot escape responsibility for what followed." What followed — cease-fire, a free election, victory for the opposition — turned out to be pleasanter than anyone dared to predict.

Only yesterday the Contras were said by their supporters to be a spent force, thanks to the perfidy of Congress. Now those same supporters say it was the Contras themselves who achieved this splendid victory. They have undergone a stunning retrospective recovery.

"On your head be it" was a major theme of the Contra lobby during the years of ideological struggle here in Washington. "Which side are you on?" asked Patrick Buchanan, White House communications director, in *The Washington Post* in 1986. "Whether Central America becomes the next appendage of the Soviet Empire is a question to which the Democratic Party in Congress now holds the answer." Failure to fund the Contras "would lead, as night follows day, to loss of Central America". And, "If Central America goes the way of Nicaragua, *they will be in San Diego*." (Buchanan's italics).

The pro-Contra argument was that unless the war continued, the Sandinistas were certain to consolidate their power. Anyone who thought otherwise — who held out hope for regional negotiations, for moral persuasion, for internal discontent; for the natural economic catastrophe of a Marxist economy — was considered hopelessly naive or a secret communist sympathizer.

Congress did briefly approve military aid to the Contras in 1986 and "humanitarian" aid at other times. And the Reagan administration managed some illegal military assistance before that. Over the years, 30,000 Nicaraguans died in the Contra war — in proportion to population, the equivalent of almost three million Americans. Those who wish to give the Contras credit for the triumph of democracy in Nicaragua are reduced to arguing that Washington's on-again, off-again support, for which they had nothing but contempt at the time, was exactly the right approach: by a remarkable coincidence, 30,000 deaths was precisely the right number; more would have been otiose, but fewer would have been insufficient.

There is a grain of truth in this. What may have helped, if anything, is a sort of bad-cop, good-cop strategy, with the White House threatening war and Congress offering negotiations. But how many more Nicaraguans would have died if the Contra supporters had had their way all along? And what would be the situation in Nicaragua today? Probably a bloody civil war, with the Sandinistas still in charge. At best there would be a militarily installed junta with no electoral legitimacy, and a renewed guerrilla war being fought by the ousted Sandinistas in the hills. Surely it is more wholesome to speculate about whether today's happier result might have been achieved with only 20,000 war deaths, or 10,000, or even none at all.

Most Contra supporters never acknowledged the cost in blood and destruction that they were willing to impose. Throughout his eight years in office, Ronald Reagan apparently believed the Contras were not the sort of people who blew up power stations, because "this would hurt the people of Nicaragua".

Impoverishing the people of Nicaragua was precisely the point of the Contra war and the parallel policy of economic boycott and veto of international development loans. US thinking has been at its most Orwellian on this point: blaming the Sandinistas for wrecking the economy while devoting our best efforts to doing precisely that ourselves.

The Sandinistas could have wrecked the economy on their own, but we did not give them the chance. Economic disaster was probably the victorious opposition's best election issue. Nevertheless, it was also Orwellian for Washington, having done this, to pose as the exhorter and arbiter of fair elections in Nicaragua.

Of course the most important factor in explaining the unexpected collapse of communism in Nicaragua is the unexpected collapse of communism in the Soviet Union. To what extent US policies of the past decade (as opposed to the broader, bipartisan policies of the past two generations) are responsible for that collapse is another question.

One way to think about these things is to ask what the "Reagan-did-it" crowd would be saying today if the opposite had happened. What if the Soviet Union were as unreconstructed and malevolent as ever. Would they be saying, "Well, I guess Reagan's policies were a mistake"? Or would that also, in their view, have proved the wisdom of the arms build-up, Star Wars, and so on? If Daniel Ortega had declared himself emperor and launched a full-scale invasion of El Salvador, would Contra supporters be taking credit for that? The questions answer themselves.

All eyes are now on Cuba. Just about the only hard-core Stalinist country left in the world is the one to which US opposition has been most implacable. Even when American leaders were hugging and toasting Brezhnev, they were isolating and reviling Castro. Would hardliners take responsibility for the success of this policy?

The author is senior editor of The New Republic.

Baiting the hound that feeds

MATTHEW PARRIS

Here is a message for all dogs who like the occasional nip and want their names in print. Firstly: poodles, Labradors, family-style dogs. To get into the provincial daily press (*The Barchester Evening Chronicle*) you must bite. Hard. Preferably kids. And draw blood. It's got to support words like "maul" or "savage attack" in the headline.

To get into tabloids like *The Sun* or *Daily Express*, a good bite alone won't do. So pull out all stops. Bare your teeth, think "demented", "devil-dog" and "intensive care", and you're in with a chance. And to hit the Fleet Street qualities? Don't bother. The *FT* doesn't photograph retrievers.

Rottweilers. Much easier for you. The provincial press will take nearly anything with "Rottweiler" in it — just a little graze, an abrasion, a whimpering toddler... you can even make it by biting another dog! For the national tabloids, though, it has to be a jolly good bite. And the qualitie papers? Yes, worth a try, but you really must go for it: see the advice above to Labradors wishing to reach *The Barchester Chronicle*.

Bandogs (the new Rottweiler-pit bull terrier cross from America). Just snarl.

How do I know this? Easy. Two research assistants, a mobile phone, the *Willings Press Guide* list of daily papers, a note pad, and two little lies:

Lie 1. "Hello? News desk? I'm a stringer [freelance journalist] temporarily in your area. Look, I've got a Rottweiler-biting for you... yes, local... No, only the outline so far, but there's a phone number... Yes I could sell it to you; but they're friends, so I'd better check first. Do you want me to follow it up?"

Lie 2. "Hello? Newsdesk... Got a dog bite story... What's that? No — not a Rottweiler. Just a biggish, mongrelish Labrador-style pooch. Shall I follow it up? What kind of thing are you likely to use?"

We got through 50 papers. With the nationals (which were unlikely to notice the coincidence) we tried both stories. The outcome was startling.

Reaction was remarkably uniform across papers of similar types. Papers of every type would report our Rottweiler bite if it was sufficiently serious. How serious depended on the circulation — and the pretensions — of the paper: the smaller the circulation, the smaller the bite. Most provincials were interested in anything with "Rottweiler" in it. "Oh yes! Rottweilers are all the go at the moment!" exclaimed a North-western daily. Its East Midlands sister was "*certainly* interested! For the first edition please." "We'd love it," said a South Coast daily.

Fleet Street demanded more from the delinquent Rottweiler. The broadsheets insisted on grave injuries, while the tabloids wanted what one called "a good mauling". "If the wounds are more than superficial," said another. "Any chance of a hospital bed?"

And what if the dog was only a "Labrador-style pooch"? Fleet Street, both tabloids and broadsheets, treated our inquiries with contempt. They were not interested in the severity of the wounds. "I don't *think so somehow*" summed it up. "Thanks but no thanks," said another. And about half the provincials took the same attitude. As one North-eastern daily put it: "Now if it had been a Rottweiler..."

Of the *remainder*, some were non-committal ("Not desperately. Get back to me when I'm not so busy"); some were interested, and most were typified by a Mersey daily: "Ah, we get lots of that sort. It would have to be a fairly decent bite to arouse our interest"; or (from Lancashire): "We *would* want something dramatic."

Britain is a big country. At any time, canine teeth of every breed are sinking into human flesh of every texture; walls are falling on pedestrians and motorists are being blown into trees; people languish with food poisoning, and children are being sexually abused. It is not to diminish the seriousness of these things, nor to deny that they may sweep the country in waves, to observe that it is not necessary for an epidemic to occur for honest reporting to give the impression that it has.

Art holds not a mirror, but a filter, up to nature. Selectivity, not dishonesty, is the greatest liar.

My thanks to researchers Jason Mitchell and Matthew Nicholls and, for advice, to Sam Fay of *The Matlock Mercury*.

THE TIMES

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

LE PRÉSIDENT SOLEIL

The General Secretary is dead. Long live the President! Mr Mikhail Gorbachov will tomorrow celebrate five years at the head of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union by inviting its Central Committee to approve radical constitutional changes to create an executive presidency. Though there is virtually no chance of the proposal's being refused, its acceptance will be a richly symbolic abdication of political power by the institution in which it has reposed for seven decades.

The new office is supposedly intended to give Mr Gorbachov a more secure base, independent both of the party and the Congress of People's Deputies, from which to carry *perestroika* forward. Behind this public defence of the projected head of state, there lies a hidden agenda. Whatever revenge the Soviet nationalities, including the Russians, may now exact from the Bolshevik boyars, such a fate would be unthinkable for the man who broke their oppressors' spell. For large sections of the Russian intelligentsia, Mikhail Sergeyevich is too rare a captain to be allowed to go down with his ship in the approaching tempest.

Future artists will surely find splendid material in the stormy scenes presently enacted within the Kremlin. Eisenstein was once summoned by Stalin to explain his presentation of Tsar Ivan the Terrible's ruthless suppression of opposition. Stalin could not find anything to criticize in Ivan; if anything, the Tsar had not been thorough enough in annihilating the enemies of the State.

Mr Gorbachov would doubtless place himself in a somewhat different tradition of Russian rulers; but the fundamental principle that the good of the common people justifies any means has not changed. As President he will enjoy powers greater than any head of a constitutional state should need. The Soviet Union, however, still lacks a civil society, without which constitutions have limited meaning.

A workers' and peasants' State was the goal proclaimed by the revolution; it has, in a sense, been achieved. But Mr Gorbachov now has his work cut out to recreate the lost bourgeoisie, whose extinction at the hands of his predecessors had until lately prevented the emergence of the institutional and legal infrastructure of a free country.

Hence the future President could attempt to justify his concentration of power by reference to the political primitivism of his people. But the Soviet nationalities are already sufficiently exhilirated by the experience of the past five years to react with fury to any attempt by those in authority to patronize them. Mr Gorbachov's freedom of manoeuvre has already been restricted by the incipient democratic tendencies which he himself set in motion.

Power is less likely to corrupt those who exercise it over free men than those who wield it absolutely over slaves. The deceptive parallel between Mr Gorbachov and Peter the Great is popular in the West; not, however, in Russia itself.

Louis XIV and his fellow enlightened despots devoted a great part of their reforming zeal to the creation of centralized bureaucratic states as a means to the extension of their power. Lenin inherited just such a system, though one fallen on hard times. Through all the vicissitudes of the intervening decades, the only enduring communist innovation has been the vast expansion of the security services. Otherwise little of substance has changed.

While it is entirely conceivable that Mr Gorbachov will soon decide that the cult of Lenin, too, is expendable, it is far more difficult to imagine him dismantling Lenin's State. The new presidency, indeed, suggests that he intends to move in the opposite direction: towards ever greater concentration of power at the centre.

ARE WE BEING SERVED?

Not all of those who are calling for action in the Fayed affair are entirely clear about what they would like to see done, but the sort of baying that has been heard in the last few days is normally associated with blood. Some people (they include a number of Tory backbenchers) appear to think that it could as well flow from the veins of Mr Nicholas Ridley as from those of the owners of the House of Fraser.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry is to this administration what Samuel Beckett was to the world of the theatre. He is impervious to the views of critics or public. Not everybody understands what he is getting at all the time, but it is uneasily conceded that he might be saying something important. His instincts, like those of the creator of Godot, are severely minimalist — his statement to the Commons about the mammoth Harrod's report lasted all of two minutes.

Mr Ridley is further believed to harbour the unsettling ambition of wishing to work himself out of a job by letting most of the functions of his Department wither on the vine. This is an idea which most politicians find eccentric, and some downright unsporting.

What, then, might he have said if he had addressed the House a little less briefly on Wednesday afternoon? A few sentences of xenophobic harrumphing would have gone down well, no doubt, but Mr Ridley is too fastidious a man for that. A passing reference to the integrity of royal warrant holders might have earned him a growl of approval, too. All that he did say, in fact, was that to employ his quasi-judicial powers to bar the Fayeds from their directorships would not be in the public interest.

In political terms, that was a mistake — which is another way of saying that it was not what people wanted to hear. Mr Ridley's contention was that since there were no longer any outside shareholders, such an action would have no effect. His critics argue that he defines the public interest altogether too narrowly. Mr Ridley, with a shrug of patrician disdain, observed simply that the matters under discussion were not "particularly heavyweight". If the secretary of state's temperament allowed him to be more in sympathy with "gesture" politics, he could well have detained the House longer with a few rhetorical flourishes. The disqualification of the Fayed brothers might have been no more than a gesture, but it would have been an important one, signalling government concern for the good name of the business and financial system.

Beyond that point, the flow of helpful suggestions to Mr Ridley dries up rather rapidly. It is clearly reprehensible that the Fayeds should have lied as they did. It is only, however, on April 1, when last year's Companies Act comes into effect, that it will become an offence to give false or misleading information in the context of a bid investigation.

Equally, it is only when the Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Bill passes into law that the authorities will have the increased powers they need to be able to probe effectively into alleged offences with overseas ramifications. The Trade Secretary's better-informed critics concede privately that the DTI report might be of little use in a court of law, and that as things stand at present, he had few effective remedies to hand.

The Harrods affair has added greatly to the gaiety of the nation, but it has not shown the House of Commons at its most intelligent. There have been calls for an early debate, and there should certainly be one, preferably with the Attorney General in his place.

The Government's business managers may be tempted to kick the ball into the long grass by naming a date after Easter. They would be wiser, the difficulties posed by the Budget notwithstanding, to find time in the next couple of weeks.

The danger of apoplexy will have receded by then, and members will have had time to reflect on the wise words of a German visitor to Knightsbridge this week — "Harrods is not a national treasure, it's a department store, for goodness sake".

NEEDS SOME ATTENTION

The biggest financial investment ever entered into by most people in Britain is the purchase of a house; yet it is the one in which they have been least protected. The actual purchase is subject to some legal control, but in choosing the property and agreeing a price the purchaser is all too vulnerable to abuse. *Caveat emptor* has been the principle. The buyer should indeed always beware, but like an explorer entering the jungle he also needs some protection. This is truer now than ever before as the home-owning sector expands and changes shape.

Such is the background to the long-awaited report from the Office of Fair Trading which seeks to tighten the regulations governing estate agents and extend the Trade Descriptions Act to home purchase. Beauty lies in the eye of the beholder and the "charming bijou residence in West London" may indeed seem like that to its proud owner, even if it is a cramped terraced house near Shepherd's Bush. A "south-facing flat with completely open aspect" may have an uninterrupted view over a sewage farm, although unless it is quickly snapped up sight unseen, that blemish at least should be fairly obvious. Not so the "Edwardian dwelling, structurally sound" whose walls are feeling the heavy strain of subsidence. Such poetic licence might not be thought entirely fair.

It is no less clearly improper for an agent to push up the price by inventing a phantom "buyer" or for him to put pressure on a client to take out a mortgage or insurance policy through the agent. Those who transgress these rules might soon be banned from trading.

Few would quarrel with the fitting of such "teeth". Most reputable estate agents have long called for them. The profession's reputation is unenviable, partly because of the work practices of its less scrupulous members. The number of agents has mushroomed in recent years, reflecting the boom in the property selling market. The result has been a proliferation of "cowboy" agents. It is obviously in the interest of established businesses that these all too plausible newcomers are weeded out.

The Government had hoped for a voluntary code of conduct, but it was the established agents who opposed this. Their argument was that while they would abide by it, those it was aimed at would not. An enforced code, introduced through changes to the 1979 Estate Agents Act was the only answer. This sounds sensible enough and the proposals from Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, would seem to be on the right lines.

What is not certain is whether they go far enough. Sir Gordon has stopped short, for instance, of proposing the introduction of minimum standards. He points out that most criticism of house agents has concerned their sense of ethics rather than their professional competence. The Government too has always been against it, on the rather different grounds that the introduction of qualifications and requirements might impose too tight a restriction on the market place. The selling of houses, like the selling of greengroceries, should be open to all who abide by the law and all relevant regulations.

Many agents themselves are disappointed by the omission. In particular those who are qualified surveyors would like to impose higher standards on the profession. One might not wish to create a closed profession just for the sake of it — there would always be a temptation for members to push up their charges. It is an area that should be watched, however, and the Office of Fair Trading should return to it if necessary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Quality of life in Castro's Cuba

From Dr Sebastian Balfour

Sir, Your leader of March 3 and Anthony Daniels's article on Fidel Castro ("Havana's sorry have-nots", March 5) seem to me misleading. Few people can doubt that if he held a plebiscite tomorrow Castro would win massive support from the Cubans, despite the generalised disgruntlement at the shortage of goods in the shops.

The problem facing the Cuban people is not so much the psychology or the dogma of their leaders, nor the excessive centralisation of political and economic life on the island, but the unrelenting hostility of the United States Government. The tragedy is that because of the crippling blockade imposed by Washington for almost 30 years and the recent and gradual withdrawal of Soviet aid, democracy in Cuba, and indeed in Central America, can only mean democracy on US terms.

In the history of the region, a US-led free-market economy has brought with it widespread poverty, civil strife, and murderous military dictatorships. At least the Cubans have the right to the kind of welfare, housing, and education denied to most people of the Third World.

Yours faithfully,
SEBASTIAN BALFOUR,
59 Wallingford Avenue, W10.
March 5.

From Sir Rowland Whitehead

Sir, It was timely that as I stepped off the plane from Havana on Monday after three weeks travel in Cuba I should read Anthony Daniels's article — it made excellent reading.

It is quite true that the hotels, however grand the exterior, are a nightmare for the comfort-loving tourist. The experienced traveller takes a squash ball for the missing bath and basin plugs, learns to shave in cold water, and puts up with truncated menus to the point where bread, fruit, and coffee are "off."

Mr Daniels does not mention the education programme. Everywhere one goes, even in the broken-down provincial shanty towns, there are neat, clean schoolchildren. Beautifully turned out with crisp white shirt, knotted scarf and well-pressed trousers or skirt these handsome children look intelligent, alert and motivated.

Can it be that this clever and well disciplined future workforce, even if at present indoctrinated, will, as the revolutionary regime fades away, take the country to better things?

Yours faithfully,
ROWLAND WHITEHEAD,
Sutton House,
Chiswick Mall, W4.
March 8.

The Harrods affair

From Mrs Renee Bravo

Sir, The Government may not have a method of dealing with businessmen who tell lies, but the customers do.

I have this evening written to Harrods closing my account.

Yours faithfully,
RENEE BRAVO,
15 Embassy Court,
Woodford Road, E18.
March 7.

Speeding fine

From Mr J. N. Spencer

Sir, You report (March 1) that the Duke of Westminster, reputedly Britain's wealthiest man, was fined for speeding at 106 miles per hour.

In the recent White Paper on *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public* the Government states that it is considering unit fines where the court would fix the penalty in units according to the seriousness of the offence, with the value of the unit set according to each offender's means.

What would be the fine for the duke under this system and would there be a problem over the £1,000 maximum under the stamp?

Yours faithfully,
J. N. SPENCER,
Clerk to the Justices,
Law Courts,
Westwey Road,
Weymouth, Dorset.
March 1.

Waiting lists

From Mrs Penny Uren

Sir, Reference the College of Health report (March 6) my husband has been six years on the Plymouth Health Authority waiting list for a replacement knee operation.

Despite every effort by us and our GP to stress the urgency he has just been told he will have to wait another two years.

Yours faithfully,
PENNY UREN,
Kenton,
Stapledon Lane,
Ashburton, Devon.
March 8.

Long-distance routes seen askance

From Dr John Whitelegg

Sir, The Spectrum article on European transport (March 7) accepts uncritically the need for long-distance routes in Europe. Most passenger and freight trips are over much shorter distances and much more could be done to improve the fortunes of firms by improving local transport conditions than by investing in schemes as grandiose as the "Manchester-Moscow pan-European highway."

Hugh Rees, of the European Commission, dismisses criticism of these military-style European axes. He is mistaken. There is no evidence in support of the thesis that building roads or new rail schemes on this scale benefits local or national economies. There is plenty of evidence that improved communications encourage centralist tendencies to the detriment of peripheral regions.

There is plenty of evidence that economic activity thrives where local infrastructure is sound, and this means good urban public transport to encourage mobility of skilled labour and good training/education programmes to make it available in the first place. Housing, schools, and public transport will stimulate jobs and economic growth in a way which is not environmentally destructive.

Grandiose European schemes of the kind favoured by the Commission are environmentally destructive. They generate useless transport by emphasising long-distance links at the expense of local links. A local economy can deliver as much as one with outposts in Manchester and Moscow at much lower environmental costs.

No one does seriously suggest that we go back to the horse and cart, but I seriously suggest that the Commission should get its act together on public transport in cities and on an analysis of exactly what does help firms and economic activity. It may well be surprised at the importance which is attached to local transport quality in Manchester or Moscow and the irrelevance of the gap which separates them.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHITELEGG,
Heinrich-König Str 80,
4630 Bochum 1,
West Germany.
March 8.

Twyford Down

From Sir Colin Buchanan

Sir, The alignment chosen for the M3 link round Winchester would devastate a fine tract of English countryside. The alternative scheme for a tunnel would not only be much more expensive but would (in respect of the tunnel portals) be nearly as damaging. So why cannot it be accepted that there is no full motorway-standard solution for this bit of M3?

Why cannot all the drivers of cars and trucks who use this route be told: "Sorry, chums, but all you are going to get here is the improvement of the existing by-pass. We will make a good free-flowing job of it, high-specification carriageways which will never need repair, no danger of contra-flow systems. But it will not be to motorway standards like the rest of the M3. It will be narrower.

"You will have to reduce your speeds, and keep them absolutely uniform, there will be no overtaking, distances between vehicles will be maintained strictly to the rules, and (most important of all) you will have to master new rules and techniques applicable to 'merging' — i.e., where three (or more) traffic lanes narrow down to two.

"You may find your journey times slightly extended but in the big scheme of things this won't matter toppence, and you will gain a few miles of driving free from motorway madness."

Yours truly,
COLIN BUCHANAN,
Appletree House,
Lincombe Lane,
Boars Hill, Oxford.

From Mr. C. J. G. Stanley

Sir, The declaration in today's letter from the Director of the British Road Federation that "the Darenth Valley is a better place" (because of the M25) cannot be allowed to stand.

Those who live in the valley will disagree most strongly that the glare of motorway lights, incessant noise for 24 hours a day and a substantial increase in traffic along country lanes and village streets to gain access to the motorway make it "a better place" than the peaceful valley it was before the M25 was built.

Such a patently absurd assertion seriously undermines any valid case which BRF may have for its policy on Twyford Down.

Yours faithfully,
C. J. G. STANLEY,
5 Shoreham Place,
Shoreham,
Sevenoaks, Kent.
March 3.

Gallipoli campaign

From Mr S. J. Blenkinsop

Sir, Your Review article (March 3) by Brian James on next month's 75th anniversary of Gallipoli lists the vast number of bravery decorations won by the British and Commonwealth forces. Less well known, though, is the story of the Gallipoli campaign medal that was never issued.

When the Great War ended, the Australian and New Zealand governments both asked Britain for the right to award a special medal to all those Anzacs who survived the Dardanelles campaign. During that eight-month ordeal, only 4,963 of the 37,760 Anzacs who landed escaped death or serious wounds.

A bronze eight-pointed star was designed. The ribbon was actually made with a red strip representing the troops, blue the naval forces, yellow for the wattle of Australia and grey for the fern of New Zealand.

Then "protocol" took over. In Whitehall it was felt that such a medal, limited to the Anzacs, would be unfair to the other nations who took part and the idea was abandoned.

Before the 50th anniversary of the landings I wrote to several MPs suggesting that the project be revived; even then, as a fitting "golden anniversary" gesture to Australia and New Zealand. Several were interested and supported the idea but, sadly, nothing was done.

Now, 75 years since Gallipoli, only a handful of survivors remain. Surely it is not too late even now to issue the Anzac star to them all — Anzacs and non-Anzacs — as a gesture of Commonwealth unity?

Yours sincerely,
STANLEY J. BLENKINSOP,
Wingrove,
57 Macclesfield Road,
Wilmslow, Cheshire.
March 4.

From Mr Derek Bratt

Sir, The 28 VCs referred to in the article on Gallipoli are presumably only those won by the Army, which may be analysed as the 12 won by the units of the British 29th Division, the six by other British regiments, and the 10 awarded to the Anzacs.

The Gallipoli and Dardanelles expedition was the first example of what later in the Second World War became called combined operations and in addition to the Army's 28, the Royal Navy won another 10 VCs, including those on the River Clyde, which should surely have been preserved as a national memorial, and by the submariners who breached the defences of the Dardanelles to enter the Sea of Marmara.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK BRATT,
26 Windsor Road,
Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire.
March 4.

S Africa's poor whites

From Mr Harold Soref

Sir, Ms Julia Lockwood (March 7) is perfectly correct that the whites in South Africa have the democratic vote, unlike the blacks. This is unique in sub-Saharan Africa; but this is why the republic, despite sanctions, is prosperous and blacks seek to immigrate to South Africa, where they enjoy a higher standard of living, health, and education.

Democracy would lead to mass emigration, destitution, and anarchy. The remaining Afrikaners would put up a stiff resistance. They comprise most of the security forces, police, civil servants, and farmers.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD SOREF,
20 Meriden Court,
Chelsea Manor Street, SW3.

Soviet reshuffle

From Miss Katherine M. Ellison

Sir, Further to Mr Mynett's correspondence of February 27, and Mrs Bright's response (March 6), I am delighted to report that Vodka Gorbatschow (pronounced Gorbachov) is indeed alive and well *here* in the UK, as well as Europe, USA, and even Russia.

In Czarist Russia in the last century "Gorby" was distilled in St Petersburg (now Leningrad). When the Gorbatschow family fled to the West after the October Revolution their vodka found a new home in Berlin. It is available in the UK in two strengths — 50 per cent by volume of alcohol and 37.5 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
KATHERINE ELLISON
(Product manager),
V. Benoist Ltd,
8-10 Eldon Way, NW10.

Learning to walk

From Mr John H. Patrick and Mr Gwyn A. Evans

Sir, We read with interest the article by your Science Correspondent (February 27) with regard to surgery for children with cerebral palsy being undertaken in the United States. You report that a most laudable charitable effort is being made to provide a gait laboratory (a movement analysis unit) at Guy's Hospital. However, in case readers should infer that there is no such facility for this treatment in the UK, may we state that such a unit has existed for over three years at the Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

The American method of gait analysis, then logical surgical treatment, carried out in the same fashion as shown on the television programme *QED* "Back to the drawing board" last night, is being reproduced in the National Health Service setting. At a recent two-year post-surgery follow-up most of our children showed a measurable benefit in function as well as better walking ability after this treatment regime.

Great care has to be taken not to suggest that such treatment makes these children normal, and more scientific evaluation will be necessary to ensure that this "new" treatment is effective over a period of years. We are studying this further.

We are concerned that parents of affected children may be persuaded to travel unnecessarily to America when such treatment is available here under the National Health Service.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN PATRICK,
G. A. EVANS,
Orthotic Research & Locomotor Assessment Unit,
Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital,
Oswestry, Shropshire.
March 8.

Voice of protest on the poll tax

From the Secretary of the Medway Federation of Anti-Poll Tax Unions

Sir, From our point of view, your reports of the massive demonstrations against the poll tax at council meetings are misleading. Approximately 500 people demonstrated peacefully but vociferously when Gillingham council set its rate of £285 on Tuesday night (report, March 7). With the exception of Steve Nally, Secretary of the All-Britain Anti-Poll Tax Federation, who addressed a rally, from my knowledge as the organiser most people were from the local area. They were of all political persuasions and of none. One hundred people joined our union at £1 a card and pledged not to pay the poll tax.

In Kent, where rates (and services) have traditionally been low and home ownership high, the poll tax is the final straw for tens of thousands of people already hit by soaring mortgage rates. That is the reason for the unprecedented size of the protests, not sinister "masterminds".

For the record, the anti-poll tax unions in the Medway towns have had a great deal of support and encouragement from local Militant supporters. Many of us have been particularly grateful for the news and information from Scotland we have received from the reports in the *Militant* newspaper (something sadly lacking in your own newspaper until very recently). But the movement is much bigger and wider than that, as any of our members will tell you.

Yours faithfully,
MARC GREEN, Secretary,
Medway Federation of Anti-Poll Tax Unions,
PO Box 88, Rochester, Kent.
March 7.

From Mr T. W. Taylor

Sir, Was the Peasants' Revolt in the face of an earlier proposal to introduce a poll tax a "carefully orchestrated campaign" of "gratuitous violence" and "provoking confrontation"? (reports, March 7).

If it was, should we continue to regard it as an expression of the outrage of the people, or should we now write it off as merely a militant rent-a-mob exercise?

Yours faithfully,
T. W. TAYLOR,
80 St Philip's Road, Cambridge.
March 7.

From Mrs Mary C. Gandy

Sir, Like Mr Abbott and Mrs Berridge (February 27 and March 5), my sister is instructed to pay the standard community charge on her property, where no one is normally resident.

She is a missionary, in her fifties, working overseas. She recently bought a small cottage with her only inheritance to use during visits to England and to move into on her retirement. When in England she will qualify for rebate on the grounds of low income. Whilst abroad, however, she must pay the full standard charge.

This is quite blatantly a property tax and utterly against the principle on which the community charge is based.

Yours faithfully,
MARY C. GANDY,
3 Church Crescent,
Whetstone, N20.
March 5.

Poland's boundaries

From Mr C. J. Strong

Sir, At present there is much discussion about whether a united Germany would accept the Oder-Neisse line as its permanent frontier with Poland. However, little is heard of whether the present Polish State, whose eastern and western frontiers were significantly altered in 1945, is ready to accept as permanent its present eastern frontier with the USSR.

It is worth recalling that the Polish State, to maintain whose integrity the United Kingdom went to war in 1939, was not reconstituted in 1945 within its pre-war boundaries.

The present boundaries of Poland were re-drawn by the USSR and without reference to the populations affected by these changes. The United Kingdom was either powerless or unwilling to influence these events.

Understandably, modern Poland is unwilling to abandon its formerly German-settled lands in the West, since they are more valuable acquisitions than its eastern territory seized by the USSR.

Sincerely,
C. J. STRONG,
Tamale, Jenkins Lane,
St Leonards,
Nr Tring, Hertfordshire.
March 7.

Properly launched?

From Mrs Serica East

Sir, I was delighted to see the detailed account of the 1866 Tea Race in your letters column (March 1) especially the "honourable mention" for Serica, who is usually ignored even though finishing so close to Ariel and Taiping.

I would be interested to know if any other of your readers have been named after a tea clipper?

Yours faithfully,
SERICA EAST,
Outlands,
California,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.
March 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 9: The Duke of Edinburgh visited Wymondham College, Wymondham.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman) and Mrs Sally Marshall (Chairman of the Board of Governors).

The Duke of Edinburgh, Visitor, subsequently visited St Catherine's College, Oxford and was received by Dr Brian Smith (The Master).

His Royal Highness later gave an Address to the Oxford University Strategic Studies Group on "The Profession of Arms" at All Souls College.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

This morning The Princess Royal, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, attended a meeting of the Council at Saddlers' Hall, London.

Her Royal Highness was attended by Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 9: The Prince of Wales received His Excellency Señor Don José Puig de la Bellacasa (Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Spain) and Señora Puig de la Bellacasa at Kensington Palace.

His Royal Highness received Signor Carlo Ripa Di Meana (European Commissioner for the Environment) at St James's Palace.

Subsequently The Prince of Wales, Colonel, Welsh Guards, received Lieutenant-Colonel D. P. Belcher on relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Watt on assuming the appointment, at St James's Palace.

This afternoon The Prince of Wales, Patron, Abbeyfield Society, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, opened the Youlgrave and District Abbeyfield House, Youlgrave.

Their Royal Highnesses were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Colonel Peter Hilton).

Commander Alistair Watson, RN, was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 9: The Duchess of Kent today attended a Special Preview of the 1990 *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition at Earl's Court, Warwick Road, London SW5.

Mrs Alan Henderson was in attendance.

Prince Edward celebrates his birthday today.

Tomorrow's royal engagement

The Princess Royal, Patron of the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union, will attend a match of the County versus Royal Signals at the Memorial Ground, Bristol, at 2.45.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.J. Bate and Miss J.M. Findley
The engagement is announced between Thomas, elder son of Mr and Mrs R.H. Bate, of Denver, Colorado, and Julia, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Findley, of Chichester, West Sussex.

Mr W.M.R. Beattie and Miss J.A. Cayeux
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of the late Mr D.K.R. Beattie and of Mrs E.M. Martin, of Kenilworth, Warwickshire, and Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.A.R. Cayeux, of Floreal, Mauritius.

Mr A.W. Burton and Miss S.A. Taylor
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs J.R. Burton, of Coffinswell, South Devon, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs K.G. Taylor, of Marianaleigh, North Devon.

Mr S.S. Coffen and Miss M.S. Smout
The engagement is announced between Stuart Scott, only son of Mr and Mrs A.M. Coffen, of Nova Scotia, Canada, and Madeleine Sarah, younger daughter of the late Judge D.A.L. Smout, QC, and of Mrs K.S. Smout, of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.

Mr W.R.O. Holmes and Mrs J.E. Hutchings
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Captain John Holmes, RN, and of Mrs Holmes, of Petersfield, Hampshire, and Jane, daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs N.R.L. Bristow, of Chidgley, Somerset.

Mr M.P.N. Crump and Miss M.L. Chan
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr Peter Crump, of Leicester, and the late Mrs Julian Crump, and Mei Ling, daughter of Mrs C.P. Cheong, of Kelantan, Malaysia.

Mr K. Hann and Miss C.M. Boardman
The engagement is announced between Keith Hann, of Callaly High Houses, Northumberland, and Chris Boardman, of Keighley, West Yorkshire.

Mr C.M.G. Ogilvie-Forbes and Mrs M.S. Leighton
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr Malcolm Ogilvie-Forbes and the late Mrs Fanchette Ogilvie-Forbes, of Boyndlie, Aberdeenshire, and Michèle Simone, daughter of the late M Henri Cheron, of Morandava, Madagascar, and Mme Simone Christophe, of Abbeville, Somme, France.

Mr D.R. Walters and Miss C.M. Mallagh
The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.W.T. Walters, of Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, and Catherine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.E. Mallagh, of Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Mr J.S. Young and Miss S.S. Strage
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of Mr C.M. Young, of Dedham, Essex, and Mrs Dianne M. Young, of Westmill, Hertfordshire, and Susy Sara, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry M. Strage, of Kensington, London.

Dinners

Lord Norrie
Lord and Lady Norrie entertained the members and guests of the International Cultural Exchange at dinner at the House of Lords last night. The Ambassador of Mongolia and Mrs Ochirbal, the Turkish Ambassador and Mrs Nures and Mr Richard Griffiths, chairman, were present.

Cordwainers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, was the guest of honour at a Past Wardens' dinner given by the Cordwainers' Company last night in the Law Society's Hall. Mr Geoffrey Barrett, Master, presided, assisted by Mr Michael Uren, Major the Hon Andrew Wigram and Mr Lance Shaw, Wardens.

Institute of Marine Engineers
Mr Michael Neubert, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, and Mr Alderman Francis McWilliams were the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Institute of Marine Engineers held yesterday at Grosvenor House. Professor R.V. Thompson, president, was in the chair. Among others present were:

The Norwegian Ambassador, the Acting High Commissioner for Sri Lanka and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization, the Director-General of the Engineering Council, the Director of the Engineering Profession, the Engineering Council and the Chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

Memorial service

Lieutenant-Colonel R.C.G. Morris-Eyton
The Lord Lieutenant of Salop read the first lesson at a memorial service for Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Morris-Eyton held yesterday at St Chad's, Shrewsbury. Prebendary Michael Pollit officiated.

Mr R.A.H. Lloyd, Chairman of the West Mercia Police Authority, read the second lesson and the Archdeacon of Salop, read the third lesson. Prebendary Basil Morson gave an address. The Bishop of Shrewsbury pronounced the blessing.

The Chairman of Shropshire County Council, the Chairman of North Shropshire District Council, the Chairman of South Shropshire District Council and the Mayor and Mayoress of Shrewsbury and Atcham attended.

Association of Coloproctology

On March 9, 1990, the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland was inaugurated at a meeting which was held at the General Hospital, Birmingham.

The objective of this multidisciplinary association is to promote the interests, standards and training in coloproctology. Further details may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, the Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN.

The Coopers' Company and Coborn School

The Governors of the Coopers' Company and Coborn School are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr C. Churchett, BA, presently First Deputy Head, to be Head Master of the school on the retirement of Mr J.R. French, BSc (Econ), London DL, on December 31, 1990.

Isle of Man governor

The Queen has approved the appointment of Air Marshal Sir Laurence Jones as Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man, in succession to Major-General Sir Laurence New. He will take office in the autumn.

Epsom College

At the Annual General Meeting of the Governors held on February 21, 1990, Mr Ronald W. Raven, OBE, OStJ, TD, FRCS, Hon FRSM, was elected President of the College after 35 years as Chairman of the Council. Mr D.G. Milne, CBE, MA, Vice-Chairman since 1985, has been appointed Chairman of Council and Mr Alan Hagdrup, LLB, Vice-Chairman.

Sir John Wedgwood, Bt

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Wedgwood will be held at St James's Piccadilly, London W1, on Tuesday, March 27, at 3 pm.

OBITUARIES

THE REV ALAN BOOTH

Charting a role for the churches in international affairs

The Rev Alan Booth, OBE, who was Director of Christian Aid for five years in the 1970s and one of the seven public figures who set up the then Institute for Strategic Studies in 1958, has died at the age of 78.

Booth played an influential role in shaping the attitudes of Christians in this country towards international affairs.

At a time when there was much debate over the ethical issues raised by nuclear weaponry, Booth was among those church leaders who remained with his feet firmly on the ground, particularly when the public campaign was at its height for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

He maintained a strong Christian case could be made for a balance of power system as a means of stabilising international relations.

His closest concern, however, was probably assistance to the developing countries and his years (1970-1975) at the head of Christian Aid represented the culmination of many years's personal effort in that field.

Born in Dublin on May 10, 1911, he was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, training for the Methodist Ministry in Belfast and ordained into the Methodist Church. After serving as Secretary of the Student Christian Movement for the Liverpool area, and a spell of theological teaching, Booth was called to serve in the International Department of the SCM and as Secretary of the British section of International Student Service.

As a member of the International Committee of World Student Relief in the years immediately following the Second World War, he worked with Communists, Jews and Christians to bring desperately-needed relief to students in war-torn Europe. His diplomatic skills were undoubtedly sharpened by this experience. In 1945 Booth had become General Secretary of the SCM, holding the post till 1951.

In 1957 he was appointed London Secretary of the Commission of the Churches for International Affairs, an arm of the Geneva-based World Council of Churches. This involved developing a network of contacts among Christian leaders in all parts of the world.

Booth's special responsibility was for Africa, and he played an important part in the delicate negotiations in which the WCC co-operated with Roman Catholic authorities in trying to bring an end to the Biafra War.

During this period he chaired a working party which produced a report, published by the British Council of Churches, on *World Poverty and British Responsibility*. This emphasized the causal relation between the trading policies of the developed nations and accelerating poverty in much of the Third World.

It was during his years with CCIA that Booth was involved, along with Sir Kenneth Grubb (its chairman), in the setting up of what has become the International Institute for Strategic Studies, representing the church input in the early years.

At the head of Christian Aid he inherited all the problems of an organisation whose responsibilities had vastly outgrown the body's original simple structures. It was his achievement to have created a style of management which has helped Christian Aid to deal more effectively with thousands of development projects worldwide.

He leaves his widow, Irmgard.

WILLIAM HOWARD, QC

Judge Advocate of the Fleet during the Falklands campaign

William McLaren Howard, QC, who was Judge Advocate of the Fleet from 1973 to 1986, has died in Hong Kong after a short illness. He was 69.

A man with a distinguished naval wartime career behind him, Howard was, appropriately, Judge Advocate during the period of the Falklands conflict, when the legality of a number of naval episodes, notably the sinking of the Argentine cruiser, *General Belgrano*, became matters of public interest.

His own naval background inclined him to take a robust view of these matters, an attitude which, combined with his knowledge of the law, was of great service to the Ministry of Defence, which felt itself obliged to fight a difficult war, far from its home bases, and at the same time maintain a somewhat unrealistic even-handedness towards the opposition, and to external criticism delivered from the comfort of armchairs, while doing so.

William McLaren Howard was born in London on January 27, 1921, the son of William George Howard. He was educated at Merchant Taylors' and went to Dartmouth in 1938, intending a naval career.

He served at sea throughout Second World War. He was in the destroyer *Firedrake* at the battle of Narvik, in May 1940. Later he saw action in the Mediterranean, in the cruiser *Manchester*, in the victory over the Italians off Cape Spartivento on the Calabrian coast in 1942.

He had a promising naval career ahead of him, but by 1946 the peacetime Navy seemed to offer less to hsu ambitions. He therefore resigned his commission in that year.

In 1947 he was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn, entered chambers with F. H. Lawton, QC, later Lord Justice Lawton; Michael Havers, QC, later Attorney-General and Lord Chancellor; and Margaret Thatcher.

He was a specialist in criminal law and rapidly built up a large practice. In 1960 he opened his own chambers, taking Silk in 1964.

He appeared in many major criminal trials at the Central Criminal Court and in other parts of the country; in the Great Train Robbery trial, he appeared for Roy James, who was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

From 1965 to 1969 he was a member of the Bar Council and a member of its special committee.

In 1967 he became deputy chairman, Norfolk County Sessions, and in the following year, Recorder of Ipswich. In 1971, after the Courts Act, he was made a Recorder of the Crown Court and Honorary Recorder of Ipswich. As a Recorder he was frequently invited to sit for trials at the Central Criminal Court.

In 1973 his early naval career and wide experience of criminal law led to his appointment by Lord Hailsham as Judge Advocate of the Fleet.

In that capacity Howard was president of the ultimate appellant tribunal for naval courts martial and was also legal advisor to the Board of Admiralty on points of public and international law.

In this latter function he was particularly active during the Falklands campaign. On one occasion he is thought to have taken a strong line against the possibility of court-martial for a Marine sentry guarding the control room of the captured Argentine submarine, *Santa Fe*, who had shot an Argentine petty officer, convinced he had intended to try and scuttle the vessel. Howard felt deeply, that the impetus to have the man court-martialled was another example of bureaucratic meddling in the difficult circumstances, which required snap decisions.

In the event after the findings of an inquiry into the petty officer's death had been given to the International Red Cross, no action was taken.

As Judge Advocate of the Fleet Howard travelled widely and built up a close rapport with his colleagues in Commonwealth and foreign Navies. The esteem in which he was held led to his being appointed in 1984 as Honorary Advocate of the Court of Military Appeals in Washington DC and in that same year as Honorary Judge Advocate of the United States Navy.

Also in 1984 he became a member of the British Academy of Forensic Science.

It was during a visit to Hong Kong on naval business that Howard decided to open chambers there for what was in the event to be the final phase of his career. This he did in 1986, and he was only the second English Silk to have been called to the Hong Kong Bar.

He soon developed a substantial practice in Hong Kong. It was a matter of regret to him that his move to Hong Kong made it necessary for him to resign his Navy appointment.

However, his traditional talents were recognised and he was appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in Hong Kong, and, indeed, was presiding over a heavy trial at the time of his death.

Blessed with a supremely happy marriage, Howard lived in style and elegance in north Norfolk.

He was a generous host and amusing companion, equally relaxed in Norfolk or in Lincoln's Inn and the Garrick. He had a wide range of interests, and many friends.

He is survived by his wife Ann, a son and a daughter.

ARTHUR FLEISCHMANN

Sculpting four Popes from life

Arthur Fleischmann, a Hungarian born sculptor who peopled parks and open spaces with his work in many parts of the world, died on March 2 at the age of 93. He thought of himself as a travelling sculptor, absorbing new ideas, not knowing the meaning of routine, with every day holding surprises.

One of the new ideas he had, which surprised his admirers and aroused the prejudices of the less original, was to pioneer the use of perspex in sculpture. His imagination was gripped in the 1950s by the potential for creating rock-crystal like forms and even fountains which seemed to be organic.

He went to Osaka to supervise the erection of a 12 feet high shape outside the British pavilion at Expo 70. Water cascading from a concealed source was to fill gaps between layers of acrylic giving life to it. He had created a bronze fountain for the Festival of Britain in 1951.

Bali's dancing figures inspired him: his own dancing figures, along with Popes, monumental work and abstracts speak of his versatility. Some of his work in perspex travelled the oceans of the world as exhibits on liners.

A devoted Catholic, he completed busts of Popes Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI and John Paul II. He is the only artist to have sculpted four Popes from life. His other portrait sitters ranged from Barry Humphries to Lord Robens and Kathleen Ferrier.

Arthur John Fleischmann, who was born in Bratislava on June 5, 1896, studied medicine in Budapest and Prague before qualifying as a doctor. But he was attracted to art and won a scholarship to the Master School of Sculpture in Vienna, before going to France and Italy to study and work. His experience with the firing of ceramics in Vienna was later well used — as his surviving terracotta work shows.

He was to work as a sculptor in Italy, Paris, South Africa and Bali before settling in Sydney, New South Wales, for a highly productive decade. Then in 1948 he came to London, where he was to spend most of his life, though he still travelled widely, wintering in Tenerife, where he died.

He leaves lasting monuments to his work all over the place. In Hagen, West Germany he depicted the 12 apostles in a sculpted altar piece which remained after bombing: a new church was built round them. There are devotional statues by him in many European churches. The Queen unveiled at St Katherine's Dock his "Crystal Crown" (1977) carved out of a block of acrylic which was intended originally for the film *2001*. One of his perspex water sculptures was used in a set of *The Empire Strikes Back*.

Nearly 50 years after he finished the bronze doors to the New South Wales State Library, Australia, he completed before his death, his last work, "Tribute to the Discovery of DNA", which is to be placed in its new wing.

He leaves his widow, Joy, and son.

JOHN HAMER

John ("Jack") Hamer, MBE, who has died aged 79, was variously tank commander, member of the Malayan Civil Service, and Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society.

He also raced home-built "specials" at Brooklands before the Second World War, during which he served in tanks in the Western Desert, Italy and in France.

Afterwards he was in the military administration in Malaya, and then in the Malayan Civil Service. He won rapid advancement during the period of the Communist emergency, and after 1957 stayed on to serve the newly-independent country. He retired as State Secretary, Penang.

Back in Britain Hamer was appointed Secretary to the Royal Horticultural Society. He successfully introduced measures to combat the effects of inflation on the Society's work using a mixture of judicious retrenchment combined with a dose of commercialism in the form of the now very successful RHS Enterprises.

Under Hamer, the Society was able to begin a profitable future with its finances stable.

Lionel Kopelowitz

A worthy successor to Jakobovits

A unanimous recommendation is to be submitted to the Chief Rabbinate Conference, on April 1, to appoint Rabbi Jonathan Sacks as successor to Lord Jakobovits next year. Tremendous public interest is generated in the way the selection takes place.

When the office of chief rabbi falls vacant, a conference is convened by the Chief Rabbinate Council, consisting of lay representatives elected by all those synagogal organizations, or synagogues, which contribute to the maintenance of the office of the chief rabbi, and who recognize his rabbinical authority.

By far the most influential in this process is the United Synagogue of London, established by Act of Parliament in 1870, comprising 42 constituent and 24 affiliated synagogues. The United Synagogue stands firmly under the religious authority of the chief rabbi, this being set down in its deed of foundation and trust, dated 1871, and the president of the United Synagogue is always the chairman of the Chief Rabbinate Council.

The office of the chief rabbi has evolved over two centuries. Towards the end of the 1700s, Jews were already established in London and in several provincial centres. Those in the provinces frequently had no spiritual guide, and they looked to the rabbi of the Great Synagogue, London, as the source of rabbinical authority. The Great Synagogue appointed Rabbi Solomon Hirschell in 1802 as its spiritual head, and although that position had as yet no juridical status, he was universally recognized as the chief rabbi, being the first unquestioned incumbent of the office.

We move with historic speed, from Chief Rabbi Dr Nathan Marcus Adler in 1844, to the succession of his son, Hermann Adler, in 1891, and thence to 1913, and the selection, by ballot, and subsequent appointment of the illustrious American rabbi, Dr Joseph H. Hertz.

In my youth, I recall listening to this commanding personality in the pulpit, often awe-inspiring, always effective, even dramatic. He left a legacy of purple prose in his volumes of Sermons and Addresses, and his scholarly commentaries on the Daily Prayer Book and the Pentateuch are widely used and admired to this day.

He gained widespread respect for leading the successful opposition (1924-31) to the League of Nations proposal for calendar reform which "would have destroyed the regular seven-day cycle and led to a roaming Sabbath for Judaism and other religions". His tireless labours during the Second World War, especially for hapless refugees, was a reflection of his role as the *pater familias* of the Jewish communities of the British Empire, who delighted in the distinction accorded to him as one of the country's Companions of Honour.

He was succeeded by Rabbi Israel Brodie, a Balliol scholar with a contrasting personality to his predecessor, who gained affection as well as respect by his gentle and accessible disposition. Among those who favoured his appointment were many who benefited from his distinguished and dedicated wartime services as senior Jewish chaplain.

During his chief rabbinate, harmony between the Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities in Britain reached a peak, as he and the Sephardi Haham enjoyed a close friendship throughout their careers. After his retirement, Sir Israel was ultimately succeeded by our present chief rabbi, Lord Jakobovits, who had served as chief rabbi in Eire, and as founder rabbi of the prestigious Fifth Avenue Synagogue in New York.

His communal interests were so spacious that he came to assume a sort of presidential role, to whom all segments of the community came for guidance. His style was executive in nature and this demanding role he filled - and continues to fill - with exemplary skill and distinction.

His main thrust has been in the field of religious education, and upon his retirement in 1991, there will be several schools to exemplify his commitment to the religious and spiritual enlightenment of his community.

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks, at the age of 41, will follow a long line of most distinguished chief rabbis. Already, as principal of Jews' College, he has made a tremendous impact as an exceptional intellect.

It must be stressed that the Jewish community has changed in the past 80 years. There are many streams within Judaism, and it is a broad spectrum ranging from the extreme Orthodox, known as the right wing, to Liberal Judaism, known as the left wing.

The chief rabbi is the rabbinical authority to the Central Orthodox sector of the Jewish community, which is the largest constituency within the British Jewish community, but not the totality of British Jewry.

The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, and the Federation of Synagogues, the Sephardi (Spanish and Portuguese) community, and the Assembly of Masorti Synagogues do not recognize the authority of the chief rabbi. The Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, and the Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues also have their own spirtual leaders.

Beyond the exercise of his rabbinical authority, the chief rabbi has a representative role which is not set down in writing, nor perfectly defined. He is generally recognized both outside the Jewish community, and within it, as the public religious representative of the totality of British Jewry.

When Rabbi Sacks takes up his new appointment he will immediately receive the loyalty and support of all those for whom he will be the rabbinical authority. He must be given time to develop the influence so that he can exercise a public representative role.

Dr Kopelowitz is President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Service dinners

Royal Marines
The Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club held their annual dinner at Lincoln's Inn last night. Major-General J.I.H. Owen, presided. Lord Justice Parker, Mr Richard Baker, Mr John Doubleday, Colonel LJ. Hellberg, the Rev A.R. Thornley and Captain Malcolm Carver, RN, were among the guests.

The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London)
Lieutenant-Colonel N.J.P. Brunt welcomed the guests at a dinner of The Queen's Fusiliers (City of London) held last night at St John's Hill, Battersea. Among those present were:

Colonel Sir Greville Spratt (honorary colonel), the City Marshal, the Master and Clerk of the Ironmongers' Company, Brigadier J M A Nurton (Commander 56th Brigade) and Brigadier P C Bowser (secretary, Greater London TA&VRA).

Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron
Air Marshal Sir Thomas Stonor, Controller, National Air Traffic Services, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron held last night at RAF Leeming. Squadron Leader, M.J. Baker, Commanding Officer, presided. Among others present were:

The Air Officer Commanding and Commandant RAF College Cranwell, the Commandant of the Central Flying School and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Second Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Durham University.

Benenden School

Benenden School is pleased to announce the following Scholarship Awards:

Lower School: Charlotte Witheridge (Founders Scholarship) Elm End PNEU School; Olivia Ruggles-Brise (Trust Scholarship) Wellesley House; Sheelagh Houlden (Trust Scholarship) Vine Hall School; Juliet Douglas-Hughes, Salters Hall; Katherine Hainsworth, Claremont School.
Sixth Form: Sarah Petrie, Tunbridge Wells Grammar School.

The following girls were awarded internal Upper School Scholarships:

Sally Davis; Kate Fleming; Natalie Kioukji; Joanne Powis; Sophie Tarnby (music); Justine Tatham; Alexandra Wilson.

The Red Maids' School

Awards 1990

Academic Scholarship: Tamsyn George (The Red Maids' Junior School).
Music Scholarship (full): Kate Hopkins (Westbury Park Primary School).
Music Scholarship (half): Catherine Llewellyn (Lisvane Primary School Cardiff).
Sixth Form Whitson Bursaries: Ruth Harvey, Catherine Holmes, Anna Simpson.

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Sir Lawrence Airey, former chairman, Board of Inland Revenue, 64; Sir Robert Bellinger, former president, National Savings Committee, 80; Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett, 77; Mr Fou Ts'ong, concert pianist, 56; Sir Richard Francis, director-general, British Council, 56; Sir Angus Fraser, former chairman, Board of Customs and Excise, 62.

Sir Samuel Goldman, civil servant, 78; Sir Charles Groves, conductor, 75; Sir Charles Hardie, chartered accountant, 80; Lord Havers, 67; Mr Terry Holmes, rugby player, 33; Mr Hugh Johnson, wine expert, 51;

Lieutenant-General Sir John Learmont, 56; Mr Michael Montague, former chairman, English Tourist Board, 58; Sir Michael Straker, chairman, the Northumbrian Water Authority, 62; Dame Eva Turner, prima donna, 98.

TOMORROW: Mr Douglas Adams, author, 38; Mr Terence Alexander, actor, 67; Miss Agatha Barbara, former president, Malta, 67; Sir John Batten, former Physician to the Queen, 66; Professor A.O. Betts, former principal, Royal Veterinary College, 63; Miss Louise Brough, tennis player, 67; Lord Congleton, 60; Sir Kenneth Dover, former president, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 70; Mr D.J. Enright, writer, 70; Mr Peter Eyre, actor, 48; Mr David Gentleman, painter and designer, 60; Mr Jonathan Gestetner, former joint president, Gestetner Holdings, 50; Professor T.C. Gray, anaesthetist, 77.

Miss Margaret Herbison, former MP, 83; Viscount Hood, 76;

Mr Raymond Jackson (Jak), cartoonist, 63; Mr Nigel Lawson, MP, 58; Sir Fitzroy Maclean, former MP, 79; Sir Henry Marking, former chairman, British Tourist Authority, 70; Mr Timothy Mason, director, Scottish Arts Council, 45;

Mrs V.J.K. Milligan, industrial consultant, 64; Judge Sir James Miskin, QC, Recorder of London, 65; Air Marshal Sir Alec Morris, 64; Lord Mowbray and Stourton, 67; Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive, News International, 59; Miss Erica O'Donnell, founder, Study Centre for the History of the Fine and Decorative Arts, 70;

Mr Justice Pill, 52; Sir Iain Tennant, Lord Lieutenant of Morayshire, 71; Miss Patricia Tindale, architect, 64; Mr Ron Todd, trades unionist, 63; Sir Peter Walters, chairman, British Petroleum Company, 59; Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, 74.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Law so that we might become God's sons.
Galatians 4 : 4

BIRTHS

[illegible] - On March 8th, to Sandy (née Welch) and Richard, a son, Frederick Forbes Courtenay, a brother for Alice.

BALFOUR - On February 25th, to Anne (née Dick) and Andrew, a son (James Alexander), a brother for Melanie.

DAVIS - On February 28th 1990, to Monica (née Chodakowski) and Jesse, a son, Thomas Janusz David, a brother for Michael.

[illegible] - On March 9th, to Belinda (née Gibbs) and John, a son.

FORREST - On March 1st 1990, to Cathy and David, a daughter, Margaret Elizabeth, a sister for Alice.

GOODMAN - On February 25th, to Sally and Peter, a daughter, Sarah Katherine.

HATFIELD-IACOPONI - On March 7th, to Penelope and Eduardo, a son, Martin.

HAY - On February 28th, to Sima and Phillip, a daughter, Rebecca, a sister for Christopher.

[illegible] - On March 4th, in Harrogate, to Gina (née Tiley) and Andrew, a daughter, Olivia Masha, a sister for Camilla and Toby.

[illegible] - On February 25th, to Lesley (née Richardson) and David, a son, Peter.

[illegible] - On March 7th 1990, to Rae (née Kirby) and Donald, a son Declan Gerard Kirby, a brother for Donald, Gregory and Jerome.

NICHOLSON - On February 20th, in York, to Eleanor (née Cosgrove) and David, a daughter, Lucy Anne.

O'SULLIVAN - On March 7th, to Amanda (née Oldfield) and Adrian, a son, John Frederick, a brother for Francesca.

SEAL - On February 27th in Lisbon, to Annabel (née Masterton) and Jonathan, a daughter, Olivia Charlotte Fraser.

[illegible] - On February 27th, to Sarah (née Purser) and James, a son, Harry John Millington, a brother for Richard and Patrick.

DEATHS

ARAKIE - On March 6th, Margaret, aged 80. Late of United Nations and UNRWA. Widow of Ralph Arakie. Also of The Broken Sword of Justice, America, Israel and the Palestine Tragedy. After a short illness. Cremation on March 10th at St Faith's, Norwich. Survived by her daughter Elizabeth and granddaughter Fanny and much loved by them. Enquiries Halesworth 2204.

BAYLES - On March 6th 1990, peacefully at home after a long and courageous fight, Tom, much loved by his wife and family. Funeral Service at Bovey Tracey Parish Church on Tuesday March 13th at 12 noon.

CASHMAN - On March 9th, 'Sir' John OAF, of The Dungeon. Sadly missed by all. KOTC.

[illegible] - On March 6th, in Princess Alexandra's Hospital, Portsmouth, Francis Edward (Jim), much loved husband of Peggy. Funeral at St John the Baptist Church, Westbourne, Emsworth, Hants., on Wednesday March 14th at 3 pm.

DANKS - On March 8th, peacefully at home, Peter Kahn Lovitt, beloved husband of Sally and the late Mollie, father of Jeremy and stepfather of Guy Armoux. Funeral Service St Paul's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge, March 16th at 2.15 pm, followed by private cremation. Enquiries to Weyman's, telephone: Cambridge 354289.

[illegible] - On March 6th 1990, [illegible], aged 94, widow of Major General Gordon [illegible] and much loved mother of Richard and Michael. She was a lovely person and will be sorely missed. Cremation at Putney Vale, London SW15, on Thursday March 15th at 2 pm. Flowers to Larner and Son, 246 Upper Richmond Road, Putney SW15.

[illegible] - On March 6th, very peacefully, John Edward, of Congresbury. Much loved husband of Julia, father of Louise, Kate and Dominic and grandpa of Thomas and Ysabella. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service to be arranged in April. Enquiries to Keith C. Brittan & Son Funeral Directors, 10 High Street, Yatton, Bristol.

KENNEDY - On March 8th, peacefully at home, A. Stewart Kennedy. Dearly loved husband of Eleanor, father of Moya, Euan, Anne, Alastair and Shuna and Papa to his ten grandchildren. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Talatley, at 11.30 am on Thursday March 15th. Family flowers only or donations, if desired, to R.N.L.I., West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1HZ.

LYON DEAN - On March 8th 1990, peacefully, Dr. William John (Bill) Lyon Dean O.B.E., of 6 Ravelston Heights, Edinburgh; a dearly loved husband; father of Frances, Charles and Alistair; and a much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service, to which all friends are welcome, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield Avenue, Edinburgh, on Tuesday March 13th 1990 at 11.30 am, followed by private committal. Family flowers only. Donations may be made to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

RUTLEY - On March 7th 1990, peacefully at home, Ida (née Liefrinck), widow of Maurice Dennett. Funeral Service at St Paul's Church, Yelverton, Thursday March 15th at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Efford at 3 pm. Flowers may be sent to Morris Brothers, 1 Drake Road, Tavistock, phone: 612023.

SAUNDERS - On March 9th, Maurice Gwynne, late Headmaster of St Christopher's School, Hove. Beloved husband of Diana ("Peter") and much loved father of Marylou, Sarina, Vicky and Roger. Funeral service, family flowers only. Donations if desired in lieu to Helen House Hospice, Oxford. Memorial Service to be announced later.

SWEETING - On March 7th, Elizabeth, peacefully at home. Beloved daughter of Major Bevan C. Field M.C., M.B.E., E.D. and Elsa Field; mother of Vicky, Liza and Gina; sister of Christine and Rosemary; aunt of Nicholas, Debbie and Katherine. On her behalf we thank all her friends and colleagues in social work for all their kindness and beautiful cards and flowers received during her illness. The family wish to thank all her doctors and nurses for their care. Loved and will be missed by many.

TUCKER - On March 8th 1990, peacefully at home, Gordon, Emeritus Professor of The University of Birmingham, dearest husband of Mary. Funeral Service at The Methodist Church, Stratford Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs., on Wednesday March 14th 1990 at 1 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations if desired to "The Methodist Church Bromsgrove" c/o Stratford Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs.

TWEEDIE - On March 6th, peacefully in his sleep, Group Captain (Retired) P.G. Tweedie C.B.E., FRAeS, aged 87. Beloved husband of Sheila, father of Jill and Ian, father-in-law of Ann and loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at Croydon Crematorium on March 14th at 2 pm. Flowers to Funeral Director Ebbutts, 89 High Street, Croydon.

WALKER - On March 8th 1990, suddenly at his home, The Old Post House, Moniaive, Peter Hugh Frederick. Beloved husband of Elizabeth Lumsden (Betty) and a much loved father of Rosanne and Caroline and a devoted grandfather. Requiem Mass will be held in St Teresa's R.C. Chapel, Dumfries, at 10 am on Tuesday March 13th, thereafter interment in Moniaive Cemetery at 11.30 am, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

WESTLAKE - On March 8th, aged 71 years, beloved Katherine (Kay), wife of Peter (Orson) and mother of Adam and Peter Mark. Donations, if desired, to The Society of the Sacred Mission, Willen Priory, Milton Keynes, Bucks.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

[illegible] Robert. Author of "Metropolitan Man", remembered on his birthday.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.
For publication the following day please telephone by
5.00 pm Mon-Thurs,
4pm Friday,
9.30am-1.00pm Sat
for Monday's paper.
01 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES "CELEBRATION OF BIRTH" CERTIFICATE

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01-481 4000.

[illegible] We didn't forget, many happy returns and all our love on your 70th birthday. James, Mary, Charlotte and Matthew.

LOOKING FOR friends in London and elsewhere in England to correspond with before visiting UK in June. As companions, hosts, guides and friends. Write to: Ms N Elros, Kloppgatan 23, 86263 Sundsvall, Sweden.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD. Recommend that before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary measures, as Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

1980 FORD CAPRI, white for sale, sensible offers. Liskeard 43633 anytime.

RAVER Turbo rollerskates, excellent cond, size 11, customised only £35. 0202 892873

BIRTHDAY WISHES to Jeremy Brian and Richard. Have a great party. Bertie.

CAMBRIDGE female seeks summer job & accommodation in London. Tel: 0865 793408

COSTA BLANCA - 4 bdrm luxury villa. Direct from owner. 010 3465 771866.

DANNY: Happy Anniversary darling! Love you lots and lots. Max xxxxxx

DAVID keen 6th former stimulating summer vac experience. Possibly abroad. 0285 655328

DEN TOG. Love dies not with the passage of time. Happy Birthday.

[illegible] - Have a super 21st birthday. I love you, always - FL.

DORDOGNE. Pretty stone cottage in hilltop hamlet. Slps 4. £80-£130pw. 0705 483217

FOR SALE - Flute. Yamaha, silver. Very good condition. £180 ono. Tel: 0322 628913

FORTRESS Macintosh Transfer [illegible] J [illegible], St Johns Wood, [illegible]

FRANK - A very happy birthday. All my love and decadence, Number 7B.

FRENCH lesson audio tapes wanted. Please contact Jim, telephone 0222 493457.

GARRATT - Happy Birthday Mum, lots of love from Dad, Alison and Steven.

HAPPY 18th Birthday Samantha, have a great day! Love Paul.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY [illegible] may your health improve. 11/3/90

HAVE to leave England, thanks to everyone for a splendid time, yours, Andreas.

[illegible], I love you even though you are forty two. SAP.

JOANNA [illegible]. Happy 20th birthday on sixteenth March. Dad, Mum, Helen, Richard.

JOE, Happy Birthday, love Mummy, Daddy, the F.F and Paddington Bear.

KAREN, won't you change your mind? Anyway, you know I'm always here. Bear xxx

KATRINA, Life without you has no meaning for me. LUAWMYOTCEH. Tony xxx.

KAWASAKI KH125 Motorcycle, D-reg, [illegible] ono. 01 669 1634

LAW SOCIETY finals - private tuition urgently required at reasonable rates. Tel: 01 748 5679

LEEDS University Orchestra presents Shostakovitch & Great Hall, Sat 17th March, 7.30 pm.

[illegible] Line 24. Phone 0962 880283.

MAZDA 1982 for sale £950. Contact 6A, Pavement Mews, [illegible], Essex RM6.

[illegible] ROADSTER 1970, white, £3,600 or there abouts. Tel: Toppy 666 822666.

MONKEY, 'Fatex'. Dwarf Rummy breed requires male stud. Dom Alex 0761 232728.

MOTORCROSS Bike Maico 500cc 1986, very powerful, fast! £875 ono. 076 121 333.

NICHOLAS SHARP (Cayley Hall, Loughborough). Good luck with your finals! Love Joanne xx

NUMERATE student reqs summer work/London. Miss Khan 39 [illegible], Leics [illegible]

NYREE my dearest, very happy birthday to you. Yours forever loving Sohail.

PADSTOW St Merryn hol cottage, sleeps 6, 1/2 acre garden, parking £125-275 pw. 0249 890079

PETER, Happy 21st at 21. Best wishes from Ian.

PETER FLETCHER - Happy 50th Birthday - Love from Nigel, Rosemary, Sarah and Angela.

QUALITY Accounting undergrad seeks work & cima training. 01 866 3098 eves/weekends.

RESEARCHER graduates July. (Politics) suit lab.MP. S Dyson, Furness, Lanc Uni, LA1 4YG

ROOM/FLAT wanted London, end March. Easy reach Green Park. 0235 20774.

SAX wanted. Good home given, low price necessary. Can you help? 0472 882199

SAXAPHONE Alto for sale, case, [illegible], £300. Call Surrey 01 330 6576.

SKIS, boots and poles excellent condition, quick sale £100. Tel: 0795 880889.

SPICER, Liz - happy 18th! have a great time. With love from Louise.

STAFFORDSHIRE, 4 bedrms, detached, quiet, garage, gardens £82,000 ono. 0243 872500

SUSHMA happy 21st. Wishing you success and happiness. Love from family.

TRAINEE Account position wanted. I'm taking A'levels in June. Newcastle area. 091 2711839.

WALKMAN Sony WM-36 £20. Coulson - Penrhos Close, Kenilworth, Warwicks CV8 2PT

WANTED Mini Cooper "S". Any running condition. Phone Ascot 22457.

WANTED: Gemini systems disks. 80-3 stand-alone system. Tel: Bexhill 0424 212293.

WENDY HUNT, sorry I'm not romantic. Will try much harder. Love Simon.

YOUNG, ambitious, creative, qualified, seeking advertising /media career. 0705 263840

BIRTHDAYS

GEOFF [illegible] - Happy Birthday! Lots of love from Lisa, Daniel, Rebecca and Eleanor.

SERVICES

ANCESTORS Economically Traced. Ask the experts. Send details for free estimate to: Achievements, Northgate, Canterbury, CT1 1BA. (TS) or tel 0227 462618.

[illegible] in London rent a video, TV by day, week, month. Quick delivery Tops TV. 01 720 4469

NANNY TIMES

AU PAIR needed in Gothenburg, Sweden for two children (10 months and 2 years). Immediate start, minimum 6 months, non-smoker. Tel: 010-46-31991415.

WANTED

A.H. BALDWIN & SONS LTD. Est. 1872. Coins and medals. Collections or specimens bought for cash. Adelphi Terrace, London, WC2N 6BJ. Tel: 01-930 6879.

AMERICAN BUYER wishes to purchase Indian furniture pre 1870 and antiques. Visiting England end of March. Please call Mr Vohra on 01 421 1115 eves.

ONE ticket for Nelson Mandela at Easter at Wembley. Tel: (0202) 421555.

RUGBY Scotland V England, and all other major international tickets required. Top prices paid. 01 839 5363/4.

SCOTLAND V ENGLAND. [illegible] please. No touts. 01 [illegible]

FOR SALE

A BIRTH-DATE Newspaper. Original. Superb presentations. Open Saturday. (0727) 43277.

ALL TICKETS Phantom, Miss Saigon, Aspects, all events and sports. Tel: 01-437 [illegible] or 01-587 8824/25.

ALL TICKETS bought & sold. Phantom, Saigon, Aspects, Sinatra, all pop, sport & theatre. 01-323 4480.

FRIDGES/FREEZERS, Cookers etc. Can you buy cheaper? Delivered today 01-229 1947/8468.

R LANE & SON Pianos. New & reconditioned. Quality at discount prices. 01-688 3513

OLD York Stone Paving. Competitive prices. Tel (0625) 839803.

THE TIMES 1791-1988. Other titles available Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". £17.50. Remember When. 01-688 6323/6324.

TICKETS for Phantom, Miss Saigon, Theatres and all sporting events. Credit cards. Tel: 01-226 1338/9. (T).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE

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ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

DAVID CARTWRIGHT Military [illegible] 'Charge of the Scots Greys' & 'Charge of French Hussars'. (0923) 772613.

DAVID SHEPHERD 'Tiger Fire' opportunity to complete your collection with this rare and beautiful print. (0923) 772613.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

PIANO WORKSHOP sells new, restored & digital pianos. Hire with purchase option. Colossal choice. 30a Highgate Road, London NW5. Free catalogue. Telephone 01-267 7671.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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ACCORD A new luncheon club for discerning singles. Cardiff/Swindon/Cheltenham. Tel: 0222 704655, 0373 61391. Reply to BOX B49.

AT LAST!...An introduction Agency that understands how much you hate the thought of going to see them... Surely, only desperate people go to agencies, don't they?..Wrong!! We are Sara Eden Introductions, where attractive, intelligent, business & professional people come to be introduced to people just like themselves. Windsor 0753 830 380..It could change your life

ATTRACTIVE Educated lady, non smoker, S.Scotland, interested to meet gentleman 50 to 60 to share life, interests, country life the arts and travel.Reply to BOX A52

ATTRACTIVE early 40's graduate lady. South Bucks seeks interesting, intelligent, honest gentleman, for sharing, caring and fun. Reply to BOX B20.

BEAUTIFUL witty liberal woman doctor 52 living in Yorkshire seeks loving companion. Reply to BOX B78.

BUSINESS woman, late 30's, slim attractive feminine and blonde seeks gentleman in similar age group who probably has same career commitments but wants to break out and enjoy life to the full. You're probably fed up with the disco scene and would like enjoy the finer things in life with a genuine lady. A good sense of humour is needed. Photos please. Reply to BOX F69

COUNTRY PARTNERS friendship/ marriage for single discerning, business and professional people. Clients interviewed (0584) 875138.

COUNTY INTRODUCTIONS for persons of quality & integrity. Southern ½ UK (0752) 225640.

DAYDREAMS are for discerning travellers. You don't have to travel alone. Join a small exclusive group off the beaten track in Turkey, overland exploring little known areas or schooner parties cruising the Turkish Aegean. Special Easter breaks. Call DayDreams Travel on 01-657 8921/631 4436

DIVORCED, widowed, separated? Come on a Minus One weekend Break. 01-551 0761 Sunday.

EXECUTIVE singles parties. London Mayfair & The Cafe Royal + Egypt holiday. 0525 490536

[illegible] Confidential personal service for business and professional people seeking that lasting relationship. Matchmakers Introductions. 01-458 0246.

HOBNOB Exclusive London club for divorced & single public school or Univ educated people, with unusual way of meeting each other. Enquiries 673 4029

MAN sought 48 yrs+. N/S. educated ? academic, loving, music lover, [illegible]. Reply to BOX N24

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SINGLES NIGHT OUT

Due to the enormous success of our promotional singles evenings, Mrs Helena Amram, the internationally renowned matchmaker, Chairwoman and owner of Helena International, is making a special trip to the UK to personally discuss her service with interested persons who were unable to attend in the past.

If you consider yourself to be particularly eligible, you're unattached and would genuinely like to find out more -

don't miss this opportunity - telephone now to reserve a personal appointment with Helena.

Appointments available between the 19th of March and the 24th of March 1990, from 10am to 7pm.

Appointments must be prearranged but are completely free of charge and completely free of obligation.

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01-491 0216
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LOVE is just a phone call away so don't delay, ring us now and you'll see how we can help you find that 'special person', someone to share your life. Our confidential service can help you meet that kindred spirit, the discerning person you've been looking for (and who's been looking for you). Phone us today. [illegible] meeting that perfect partner, that person to share your dreams. 01-385 2205, Love In Your Life, Suite 2, 108 New Bond Street, London W1.

PROFESSIONAL Indian woman, 39, 2 children, boarding / boarding school seeks tall non-smoking gentleman. London area, view to marriage. Reply to BOX A39

SINGLE Male, attractive, confident, integrity, [illegible] high self-esteem essential, age about 28. Details and photo please. Reply to BOX A19

SOPHISTICATION, class, style and intelligence all rolled into one genuine lady (49) living in the North of England and looking for her "knight in shining armour" - if you're a true romantic gentleman with a strong character, good sense of humour, charm and enjoy the arts, travel, antiques and the countryside, but still missing that special relationship in your life then jump on your charger and write to: Helena International VIP Club, 17 Hill Street, Mayfair, London W1X 7FB. Please quote ref: F-067.

SOUL MATE. Civilised, caring professional male (50's), sense of humour, loves music, art, theatre, countryside, travel, good food, wine and company. Seeks warm attractive lady (40's), to share all these and much more besides. Photo appreciated. London & South East preferred. Reply to BOX F40

STYLISH, attractive lady, London-based but well-travelled and Euro-minded, successful professionally but caring, imaginative, warm, humorous, enjoying cooking as well as culture, Strauss and Stravinsky, tennis and Tennyson, seeks civilised, like-minded, unattached graduate of wit, wisdom and broad horizons, 47+. Reply to BOX B74

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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For further information or to discuss your requirements please ring Catherine on
01-937 9864
or write to:
23 Abingdon Road
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Reply to BOX A50

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UNATTACHED & very choosy?. 01-580 6041 24hrs [illegible]

VERY Attractive elegant professional [illegible] lady living in London, but loves the countryside wishes to meet an equally attractive and professional man, with a good sense of humour, who is health conscious, fit & financially secure. Aged 40-50. For friendship / marriage. Reply with recent photo to BOX C54

FLATSHARE

BARNES - Own room in spacious riverside flat, garden, parking, £40pw 0836 405 338.

BRONDESBURY PARK NW6, F lrg. o/r. avail. Long/short let [illegible]. Share 1 other. £250pcm. Tel 01-880 2984 w. 01-459 3795 h.

[illegible] £5. M/F nr. tube [illegible] £65pw, 01 387 7000 x3229/ 01 476 4865.

FULHAM 1 bed, clean and sunny, s/c flat near tube, suit 2 sharers. £125pw. Tel 01-789 6682.

M/F Aged over N/S. Comfortable 2 bed flat, E17 area, adjacent public transport. £280 pcm. 01 936 4000 X 3893.

ST JOHN'S WOOD Prof F to share lux. flat. £500 PCM excl./£275 Mon-Fri inc. 01-436 6748 (office).

STOKE NEWINGTON Large house share. Large bedroom with own lounge. Own phone, etc. [illegible] 01-985 7747.

SW5 Woman 28+ n/s to share lux flat in Earls Crt. 5 mins tube, own dble rm. £71pw excl. Ans machine 01-602 3745.

W1 Single/double bedsits from £85 pw inclusive, short/long lets. Tel 01 580 9407.

WANDSWORTH Common Prof N/S for own spacious double room in attractive house. Close to public transport. £280 pcm inc. 01 885 1004, anytime.

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HENRY & JAMES Contact us now on 01-235 8861 for the best selection of furnished flats and houses to rent in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Chelsea.

HIGHBURY HILL. Light, spacious 1st floor, 2 bed flat, fully furnished. BR 4 mins, tube 5 mins. £165 pw. (0748) 3541 eves & w/ends. Avail end of March.

MAYFAIR Hyde Park. The most luxurious long/ short lets.1/5 beds, best prices. Globe Apartments. 01-935 9512/ 2089.

[illegible] flat W1. Attractive and spacious. 2 bed flat in superb location. Long/short let. [illegible] 01 730 1480

SHORT let. Belgravia, 2 mths, 2 bed, lux flat, caretaker, priv [illegible], avail 15 April - 10 June, £380 pw. Tel: 01-245 6271.

SUPERB lux houses & flats Ken, Chelsea, K'bridge. Immediate rental [illegible] - £2,000pw Marveen Smith Assoc 352 4294

SW5 Large double bedroomed flat in quiet square, completely furnished. Available June/ July on 6 or 12 monthly let. For details ring 01-373 9103.

W14 large, bright, sunny, gdn maisonette, 3 beds, 2 mins tube, £260 pw. Tel: 01-741 1878.

W14. Luxuriously appointed throughout 3 double bedroom turret flat within aesthetic tree lined avenue, includes lounge, kitchen/ breakfast room, 2 bathrooms, shower room with sauna & jacuzzi. Centrally located 5 minutes from District & Piccadilly line tube. £475 pw. Connections 01-603 1634.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

MOTHERS Help/housekeeper, reliable live in, own room. Refs. Tel 01 992 3077.

SITUATIONS WANTED

ENGLISH Lady 54, no ties, seeks work. My requirements: intellectual, international, financial. Yours: Spanish, French, Computer literacy, commercial experience. My details on request, please write with yours to BOX C19

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS WANTED

PROFESSIONAL reliable couple seek house sitting position, between May and October. Excellent references. South East preferred. 010-33-79 05 15 17.

LEGAL NOTICES

C No. 103 (4)
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
Rule 11.9 (1)
(4) NOTICE OF INTENDED DIVIDEND

Name of Company: First Guarantee Trust Company Limited. Address of Registered Office: 35 St Thomas Street, London SE1 9SY. Nature of business: Banking. Court: High Court of Justice. Number of Matter: 004418 of 1982. Last Date for Receiving Proofs: 23 March 1990. Name of Liquidator: Colin Graham Bird. Address: Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL.
CG Bird, FCA
9th March 1990

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO 001575 OF 1990
IN THE MATTER OF BROMSGROVE INDUSTRIES PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 26th day of February 1990 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Warner, at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Monday the 19th day of March 1990.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 10th day of March 1990
Messrs. Edge & Ellison
Solicitors
Regent Court, Regent Street
Leicester LE1 7BR
Ref: BKR
Solicitors for the said Company

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
CH NO. 001462 OF 1990
IN THE MATTER OF MID-STATES PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 21st day of February 1990 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for confirmation of the cancellation of the amount standing to the credit of the Share Premium Account of the above Company as at 12th October 1989.
AND NOTICE is Further Given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Warner at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 on Monday the 19th day of March 1990.
ANY CREDITOR or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that Purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 10th day of March 1990
Ashurst Morris Crisp,
Broadwalk House,
5, Appold Street,
London, EC2A 2HA.
Ref: MZS/0087K
Solicitors for the said Company

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO. 006996 OF 1990
IN THE MATTER OF AFP GROUP PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 19th February 1990 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £1,998,994,667 to £1,99[illegible] and the Minute approved by the High Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 21st February 1990.
Dated this 10th day of March 1990
Freshfields (LCDM/PJW) of Whitefriars
65 Fleet Street
London EC4Y 1HT
Solicitors for the above named Company

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO. 00088 OF 1989
IN THE MATTER OF PERGAMON AGB plc
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 20th February 1990 confirming the reduction of capital of the above named Company from £18,899,999.90p to £17,3[illegible] and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 1st March 1990.
Dated this 10th day of March 1990
Titmuss Sainer & Webb of
2 Serjeants' Inn, London
EC4Y 1LT.
Solicitors for the above named Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ELKINGTON, BASIL, 62 Widmore Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 3BD, date of death 29th September 1989. Particulars to [illegible] Hargreaves of 43 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 9FA before 30th May 1990.

VAN ZANTEN John Enys of 46 Park Road, Chislehurst, Kent, died on 17th February 1990. Particulars to Leigh Williams Solicitors of 32-40 Widmore Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 1HY, before 11th May 1990.

D'ECA, COLIN ANDREW MICHAEL, 10 [illegible] Road, London N19, died 5th June 1989; particulars to Vivien Burn & Co, Solicitors, 193 St. John Street, London EC1V 4LS before 18th May 1990.

PETTENGELL Charles Victor of 55 Long Elmes Harrow Weald Middlesex, died on 10th February 1989. Particulars to Goodwin Harte Solicitors of Tenable House, 221-225 Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2XL (Ref: 25/24/ Pettengell) before 11th May 1990.

ROCHON Mrs Yvonne Irma [illegible] Schoeffer of 7 Rue Jean [illegible] De [illegible], Paris 7E, France, died on 6th June 1988. Particulars to [illegible] Beach Solicitors of 10 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3QG, before 25th May 1990.

RYAN, VINCENT PIUS 11 Tudor Court, Gunnersbury Avenue, London W5, died 7th May 1989; particulars to Vivien Burn & Co, 193 St John Street, London EC1V 4LS, before 15th May 1990.

MARCH 10 ON THIS DAY 1875

Dwight Lyman Moody (1837-99) and Ira Sankey (1840-1908) attracted large crowds in their evangelical tours of Britain. Everywhere they were received with enthusiasm. One young man remained sceptical; after a meeting in Dublin in 1875 there appeared in Public Opinion *a letter questioning the efficacy of the service, and thinking that "respecting the effect of the revival on individuals I may mention that it has a tendency to make them highly objectionable members of society..." The writer was George Bernard Shaw with his first essay in print at the age of 18.*

◆

AMERICAN REVIVALISTS

After many notes of preparation, Messrs Moody and Sankey last evening inaugurated their campaign against the religious indifferentism of London by a service at half-past 6 in the great Agricultural Hall at Islington.

The eastern platform was fitted with 900 seats and in the south gallery were 3,000 chairs. The addition gives a total of 21,320 not including the west and east end galleries, each capable of containing 600 more. The lighting of the room was effected by means of large gas chandeliers hanging from the roof, aided by lines of gas jets along the sides, straight, save at the centres, where they rose in three semi-circular arches. The acoustic properties of the hall were greatly aided by an immense sounding-board, as big as a barn door over the speakers' platform.

Mr Moody, punctual to the moment, at half-past 7, was in the president's place, bent for a moment in silent prayer, and then said: "Let us rise and sing 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow'," which was done by the vast assembly with solemn effect. Mr Moody then led public prayer and afterwards gave out the hundredth Psalm — "All people that on earth do dwell."

The singing, as before, was accompanied by Mr Sankey on the American organ, and was very effective. Mr Moody announced that he had received telegrams from all parts of the country assuring him of the prayerful sympathies of very many in their proceedings. He begged the meeting to join in silent prayer for the Divine blessing, and after a pause of a minute of two, broke the silence by audibly leading the devotions of the people.

Mr Sankey then sang, amid the profound stillness of the grat congregation "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." To say that this solo was rendered with the utmost impressiveness is but the barest justice. "The Rock of Ages" was next sung by the assembled thousands to the tune of "Rousseau's Dream".

Mr Moody then took for his text the words of St Paul, 1 Cor. 1.17, &c. The "foolishness of preaching" did not mean foolish preaching. But it was the wisdom of God not the wisdom of man. God's methods were very different from those which might seem best to us. Those who had been interesting themselves for the spiritual welfare of London, and had been praying for its salvation, must not forget the fact and should be willing that God should do His work in His own way.

In the midst of the address a great noise of the crowd outside attempting to gain admission interrupted the proceedings. Mr Moody, without being in the least disconcerted, explained the cause of the disturbance and with great tact gave out a hymn.

Order having been meanwhile restored, he resumed his discourse with the greatest *sang-froid.*

Church services tomorrow

Second Sunday in Lent

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Venite (Piccolo), Ireland in F, Salvator mundi (Tallis); 11 S Euch & Confirmation, Ecce sacerdos (Bruckner), Missa Brevis in C (Mozart), The Archbishop; 3.15 E, Responses (Aylward), Second Service (Leighton), Miserere mei (Allegri); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, The Archdeacon.
YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Missa Cantuariensis (Moore), Very Rev J Southgate; 11.30 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Benedictus in A (Stanford); 4 E, Second Service (Leighton), O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), Canon J Toy.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; Responses (Leighton Jones); 10.30 M, Benedicite (Batten), The Service in Three Parts (Mundy), Rev J Haliburton; 11.30 HC, Plainsong Mass (Shepherd), O sacrum convivium (Croce); 3.15 E, The Service of Twelve Notes (Ridout), Sicut Cervus (Palestrina), Rt Rev J Thompson.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Tallis), Benedictus Short Service (Byrd), Let thy merciful ears (Mudd), Canon A Harvey; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa Bel'Amfitrit' altera (Lassus), Canon A Harvey; 3 E, Westminster Service (Howells), I waited for the Lord (Mendelssohn), Rev J Gilling; 5.45 Organ Recital; 6.30 ES, The Dean.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC; 11 Euch, Five part Mass (Byrd), Turn back O man (Holst), O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Canon M Kitchen; 3 E, Sumsion in G, Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace (Wesley), Bishop of Croydon.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM, Mass in G minor (Vaughan Williams), Verba mea (Schutz), Vivo ego (Lobo), 12, 5.30, 7 SM; 2.30 Organ Recital; 3.30 V & B, Magnificat primi toni (Lassus), Ave Iesu Christe (Philips).
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Children's Service), 6 LM; 11.30 HM, Missa Pontificalis (Perosi), If ye love me (Tallis), Fr M Mac A Beattie.
CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Greek Orthodox, Moscow Rd, W2: 9.30 M; 11 Divine Liturgy.
CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Russian Orthodox, Ennismore Gdns, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.
CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA, Serbian Orthodox, Lancaster Rd, W1: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Wash me throughly (Wesley), Ven D N Griffiths.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11.15 M, The Lamentations (Bairstow), Out of the deep (Morley), The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 8.30 HC; 11 MP & HC, Bow down thine ear O Lord (Arensky), Crucifixus (Lotti), The Chaplain.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M; 12 HC, Bow down thine ear O Lord (Arensky), Turn thee unto me (Boyce), The Life Guards, Canon Gray.
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP, Dear Lord and Father of mankind (Parry), Rev F V A Boyse.
TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC; 11 M, My God, My God (Blow), Rev R Gould.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Hear my prayer O Lord (Purcell), Responses (Rose), The Lamentations of Jeremiah (Bairstow), Walford Davies in G, Remember O Lord (Walmisley), Very Rev J Simpson.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9, 12.15 HC; 11 MP, Benedicite (Willan), Stanford in B flat, O Lord increase my faith (Gibbons), Rev D Sirr.
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M & Litany, Reynolds in B flat, Faux-bourdons (Willan), Litany for five voices (Tallis), Rev J Bickee; 3.30 E, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Short Service (Byrd), Thy word is a lantern (Purcell).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch, Rev R Dixon.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 8.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Quand io pense (Lassus), O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), Canon S G Platten; 6 E & B, The Short Service (Morley), Salvator mundi (Tallis), Rev L A Moses.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Mr D Turner; 6.30 Rev S Wookey.
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8, 12 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Rev J H L Cross; 6 E, Mr D N Royce.
CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev S Acland.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Assumpta est Maria (Palestrina), Ne irascaris Domine (Byrd), Rev A W Marks.
HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW7: 11 HC, Rev T Gillum; 6.30 ES, Overseas Mission, Rt Rev D Pytches.
HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 8.30, 12.05 HC; 11 Choral HC, Rev Dr M Israel.
HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street, SW1: 8.30, 12.10 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Rev K L Yates.
ST ALBAN'S, Brooke St, EC1: 9.30 SM; 11 HM, Missa Cantuariensis (Rubbra), Fr M Johnson; 5.30 LM.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Lamentation (Bairstow), In jejunio et fletu (Tallis), The Rector; 6.30 E, Plainsong & faux-bourdons (Ruffo & Nanini), Salvator mundi (Tallis), The Rector.
ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 M & Euch, St Bride's Service (Sumsion), Sumsion in F, Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Canon J Oates; 6.30 E, Responses (Tomkins), Walmisley in D minor, Remember O Lord what is come upon us (Walmisley), Canon J Oates.
ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Darke in A minor, Lord for thy tender mercies sake (Farrant), Fr Sill.
ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Euch, Father F Hart; 6.30 EP.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Ireland in C, O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), The Rector.
ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12 HC; 11 MP, Rev G C Taylor; 6.30 EP, Rev P J Galloway.
ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC; 11 MP, Rev M Bunker; 6.30 Spotlight Service.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch; 5.45 EP.
ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass (Stravinsky), Thou knowest Lord (Purcell), Rev B Galloway; 6 Purcell in G minor, Jehova Quam multi (Purcell), The Vicar.
ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC; 10 Parish Euch with Sunday School, Rev T Harkin; 6.30 Evening Worship, Rev B Callaghan.
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Holland Rd, W14: 10 LM; 11 SM, Fr G Bright; 6 V & B.
ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassall Rd, SW9: 8 LM; 10 HM, Mass in five parts (Byrd), In jejunio et fletu (Tallis), Fr Thom; 4 E & B.
ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC; 9.30 Parish Communion; 11 S Euch, Missa Sancti Johannis Baptista (Streatfeild), O Lord in Thy Wrath (Gibbons), The Vicar; 6.30 E, Rev A Walker.
ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Whitlock in G, Remember not (Purcell), Rev D Watson; 6.30 E, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Ms P Gruber.
ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 10 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi munera, Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Rev J F Humble.
ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 M, Responses (Byrd), Benedictus (Elgar), Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Rev R Holloway; 12.15 HC.
ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Dr D Hardwick; 11.30 Visitors Service, The Vicar; 2.45 Chinese Service (EP), Rev G Lee; 6.30 ES, Rev J Pridmore.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington, W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Mr D Pattinson; 11.15 M, Mr D Pattinson; 6.30 E, Rev P Myles.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45 LM; 11 HM, Communion Service (Farrant), Fr N Kavanagh; 6.15 E & B.
ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Euch, Mass (Poulenc), Salvator mundi (Blow), Rev I Brown; 5.30 Meditation & Discussion, Rev R McLaren; 6.30 E.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 11 HC, Rev D C L Prior; 7 ES, Rev D C L Prior.
ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 M & HC, Responses (Webber), Bairstow in E flat, Lamentation (Bairstow), Remember me thy creator (Steggall).
ST PAUL'S, Onslow Square, SW7: 10.30 Morning Service, Rev N P G Gumbel.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa in A (Lotti), Turn me not away from thy presence (Boyce), The secret sins (Gibbons), Rev H Ruschmeyer.
ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Mass; 11 SM, Missa Osculetur me (Lassus), Fr D Tilliyer.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8 HC; 11 MP, Lead me Lord (Wesley), Come my soul (Howells); 6.30 E, O lord increase my faith, Evening Hymn (Gardiner), Rev K Yates.
ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa Surge Propera (Victoria), Verax est in luctum (Lobo), Crucifixus a 6 (Lotti), Rev P Warner; 6 Stations of the Cross & B.
ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 11 SM, The Rector.
THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 10.15 Stations of the Cross; 11 SM, Messe en style ancien (Langlais), O vos omnes (Jachet of Mantua); 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev J H McIndoe.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev K G Hughes; 3.30 Quarterly Gaelic Service, Rev M J Roberts; 6.30 Rev J Dowswell.
THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 8, 10, 12, 4, 6 LM; 11 SM, Missa Quo abiit dilectus tuus (Manchicourt), Tradiderunt me (Victoria), Caligaverunt oculi mei (Victoria).
CHURCH OF OUR LADY, Lisson Grove, St John's Wood: 10.45, Hercules Dux (Ferrariae), Peccata mea (Richafort).
FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), O quam tristis, Quis est homo (Pergolesi).
THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, Missa Quarti toni (Victoria), Emendemus in melius (Byrd), 12.30, 4.30, 7 SM; 3.30 V & B, Miserere mei (Victoria).
ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Mass for three voices (Byrd), Vinea mea electa (Poulenc), Adoro te devote.
ST MARY'S, Cadogan Street, SW3: 8.30, 10, 11 Missa Dixit Maria (Hassler), Ave verum (Byrd), Bone Pastor (Tallis), 12.15, 6.30.
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 8.30, 10, 12.30, 6.30 LM; 11.15 SM, Missa Dilexio quoniam (Palestrina), Vinea mea electa (Poulenc).
AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 11 Rev Ron F Allison.
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 11 Rev E Waugh; 6.30 Mrs H MacDonald.
CHELSEA METHODIST CHURCH, King's Road, SW3: 11 Mrs L D'Aeth; 6 HC, Rev C Rowe.
HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11 Rev P Hoar; 6.30 Rev M Rothwell.
KENSINGTON TEMPLE, (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, 11, Wynne Lewis; 2.30 Jill Anthony; 6.30, William Atkinson.
KENSINGTON URC, Allen Street, W8: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R O Latham.
REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN URC, Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 Rev Dr R Scoper; 5.30 Dr J Kennedy.
SALVATION ARMY (Regent Hall), Oxford St W1: 11, 6.30; 3 Musical Programme, Major & Mrs C Hunt.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC, Rev H M Zorn; 7 Choral V, O let me at thy footstall fall (Pearson), Rev A G Hagen.
ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 11 Rev W C McCrorie.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 Morning Service, Rev G M Tedcastle.
WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R J Tudor.
WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate, SW1: 11 Rev M Lever; 6.30 Brig I Dobbie.
WESTMINSTER MEETING SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), 52 St Martins La WC2: 11, Meeting for worship.

Latest wills

Mrs Irina Moore, of Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, widow of Henry Moore, the sculptor, left estate valued at £2,860,010 net. She left the estate mostly to her family.

Mr Helmut John Stieger, of Brough, North Humberside, chief of research at Blackburn Aircraft Company, who formed the Gloster Aircraft Company, left estate valued at £1,750,309 net.

Mrs Patricia Daway, of Longparish, Hampshire, left estate valued at £2,478,311 net. She left her estate to her children.

Mr Harold Norman Wright, of Solihull, West Midlands, left estate valued at £1,062,891 net. He left his estate mostly to relatives.

Major Archibald James Coats, of Dummer, Hampshire, wood pigeon shooter, left estate valued at £244,936 net.

Miss Mollie Stott Hillam, of Pudsey, West Yorkshire, potter, left estate valued at £239,180 net.

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Marcello Malpighi, physiologist, Crevalcore, Italy, 1628; John Playfair, geologist and philosopher, Benvie, Tayside, 1748; William Etty, painter, York, 1787; Leonard Raven-Hill, artist and cartoonist, Bath, 1867; Tamara Karsavina, prima ballerina, Leningrad, 1885; Arthur Honegger, composer, Le Havre, 1892.

DEATHS: John Stuart Bute, 3rd Earl of Bute, prime minister, 1762-63, London, 1792; Muzio Clementi, pianist and composer, Evesham, 1832; Tara Shevchenko, poet, Ukraine, 1861; Giuseppe Mazzini, Italian patriot, Pisa, 1872; Sir Charles Thomson, naturalist, Bonsyde, Lothian, 1882; Charles Frederick Worth, fashion designer, Paris, 1895; David Beatty, 1st Earl Beatty, Admiral of the Fleet, London, 1936; Mikhail Bulgakov, dramatist and novelist, Moscow, 1940; Jan Masaryk, statesman, Prague, 1948; Frank O'Connor, short story writer, Dublin, 1966; Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the Communist Party of the USSR 1984-85, Moscow, 1985.

Suffragette demonstrations in London, during which Velasquez's "Rokeby Venus" in the National Gallery was damaged, 1914.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: Torquato Tasso, poet, Sorrento, Italy, 1544; William Huskisson, statesman, Birch Moreton, Worcestershire, 1770; Marius Petipa, choreographer, Marseilles, 1819; Sir Malcolm Campbell, holder of speed records on land and water, Chislehurst, Kent, 1885; Henry Cowell, composer, Menlo Park, California, 1887.

DEATHS: John Toland, philosopher, free thinker, London, 1722; Hannah Cowley, dramatist and poet, Tiverton, 1809; Sir Alexander Mackenzie, explorer in North America, Mulnain, Dunkeld, 1820; Benjamin West, President of the Royal Academy 1792-1820, London, 1820; Sir James Outram, general, Pau, France, 1863; Henry Drummond, theologian, Tunbridge Wells, 1897; Rolf Boldrewood, pseudonym of Thomas A. Browne, novelist, Melbourne, 1915; Victor Hely-Hutchinson, composer, London 1947; Sir Alexander Fleming, discoverer of pencillin, Nobel laureate, 1945, London, 1955; Richard Byrd, aviator and Polar explorer, Boston, Massachusetts, 1957; Erl Stanley Gardner, crime writer, Temecula, California, 1970.

Luddite riots began, 1811.

Church news

Mr Geoffrey Duncan has been appointed general secretary of the General Synod's Board of Education and general secretary of the National Society for Promoting Religious Education, from September 1, in succession to Mr Colin Alves, who is retiring. Mr Duncan is currently schools officer for both organizations.

Wallace Collection

The Wallace Collection will be closed on Good Friday, April 13, and the May Day bank holiday, May 7, but open as normal over Easter.

Royal Warrant Holders Association

The following have been elected officers of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for the ensuing year: President, Mr B StG. Austin Reed, Vice-President, Mr B. E. Tove; Honorary Treasurer, Sir Edward Rayne.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Lord Prosser to be Chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland, in succession to Professor Alexander Youngson, who is retiring.

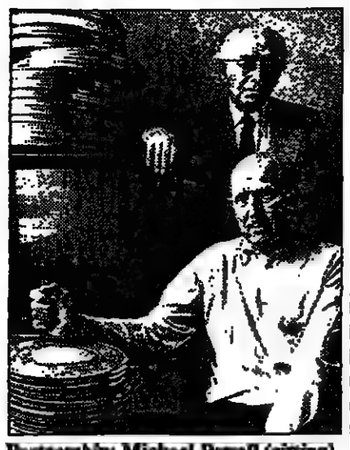
SATURDAY'S TELEVISION AND RADIO

Shooting for England

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● Michael Powell died last month at 84, firmly acknowledged as one of Britain's most original film makers. It was a reputation he enjoyed only in his last 15 or so years, and was helped along by the Americans Francis Ford Coppola and Martin Scorsese. In his 1981 *Arena* study, A Pretty British Affair (BBC2, 9.40pm), Gavin Millar asked Powell whether he felt unappreciated. "When did the British ever appreciate their great men?", was the typically mischievous reply. Repeated as part of a Powell tribute, *A Pretty British Affair* was shot partly in Hollywood, while Powell was "senior director in residence" at Coppola's Zoetrope studios. The job came to nothing and is a sad reminder of Powell's long period of inactivity which went back to the early Sixties and the outcry over *Peeping Tom*. But Millar's prime concern was to explore the unlikely relationship between Powell and his long-standing partner (also sadly dead), the Hungarian emigré Emeric Pressburger. This was based, above all, on a common love of England. Pressburger, with his cottage in the Chilterns, became as much an Englishman as Powell was by birth. Their films expressed an intense and romantic feeling for freedom and people and landscape, treated with an imaginative flair which still takes the breath away. Both *A Matter of Life and Death* (BBC2, 10.25pm) and *I Know Where I'm Going* (12.05am) offer abundant examples.



Partnership: Michael Powell (sitting) and *Emeric Pressburger* (BBC2, 9.40pm)

● Having roamed far and wide in its search for indigenous music, **Rhythms of the World** (BBC2, 6.30pm) comes home tonight with a fascinating report from the English folk scene, where traditional dances are being invigorated by infusions of reggae, rock steady and dub. Fiddles and squeezeboxes are still much in evidence, but augmented by drums and electric guitars. Quaint old newsreels of Morris dancers introduce performances by two of the modern folk bands. Edward II and the Red Hot Polkas are the more radical, with a bold incorporation of contemporary musical styles which has alienated traditionalists but pulled in enthusiastic new audiences. The Oyster Band, which spent several years on the folk club circuit before moving into rock venues, has similarly drawn on folk idioms while trying to create a contemporary roots music which turns its back on a green, idyllic past.

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Pure Maths **7.05** Geometric Topology

7.30 Saturday Starts Here with Wayne Jackman and Ian Tregonning beginning with **Playdays** (r) **7.55 Laurel and Hardy.** Cartoon (r) **8.00 New Adventures of Mighty Mouse**

8.15 Tales of the Rodent Sherlock Holmes. *The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle.* Roland Rat turns master detective, with Rodney Bewes as Inspector Snapper and Kevin the Gerbil as Watson **8.35 Thundercats.** Animated science fiction adventures (r)

9.00 Going Live!. Jerry Hall, Paula Danziger and pop group Big Fun join Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield; Lynn Faulds Wood's *Watchdog* report is on compact discs; and the cameras follow competition winners Gina Breslin and Ben Gammon on their trip to Jamaica. Plus the usual cartoons, videos and competitions **12.12 Weather**

12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to alteration): **Football:** FA Cup sixth round preview; **12.40 Skating:** the world championships from Halifax, Nova Scotia; **1.00 News; 1.05, 1.40, 2.10** and **2.40 Golf:** a Super Skins game from Australia; **1.25, 1.55** and **2.25 Racing from Chepstow; 2.55** and **3.50 Rugby League:** live *coverage of the Silk Cut Challenge* Cup semifinal between Wigan and St Helens; **3.40 Football:** latest scores; **4.35 Cricket:** highlights of the play so far on the first day of the second Test between West Indies and England in Georgetown, Guyana; **4.40 Final Score**

5.05 News with Moira Stuart. Weather

5.15 Regional news and sport

5.20 The Flying Doctors: Sapphire. A luxury trip for Dr Chris Randall turns into a nightmare when she discovers someone is trying to poison her host. (Ceefax)

6.10 Jim'll Fix It. A BBC make-up designer solves the problem of the horse without a proper tail; Gemma Trevett finds out about being a perfect nanny; Celeste Hicks learns about journalism at the offices of a Sunday newspaper; and Kirsty Dick and Kerry Peters get their wish to sing with the Houghton Weavers. Presented by Jimmy Savile. (Ceefax)

6.45 Little and Large. For this last show in the series, Syd and Eddie present Jason Donovan — or is it? Guests are Carmen Silvera and singer Sydney Youngblood. (Ceefax)

7.20 Film: Jaws (1975) starring Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw and Richard Dreyfuss. Police chief Martin Brody is convinced there has been a shark attack at the seaside resort of Amity. But closing the beaches will have a disastrous effect on the tourist trade, so Brody is persuaded to keep them open. Then a small boy is killed, the beaches are closed — and the search is on. Directed by Steven Spielberg. (Ceefax)

9.20 News with Michael Buerk. Sport and weather

9.40 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Desmond Lynam introduces highlights of the action from this afternoon's FA Cup quarter-finals. The commentators are John Motson and Tony Gubba

10.50 Rory Bremner. Comedy as Rory Bremner changes his face to fit his story. With John Bird, Steve Nallon and Enn Reitel (r)

11.20 World Figure Skating Championships. Former world and Olympic champion Christopher Dean joins Alan Weeks in the commentary box. Tonight's *programme features highlights of the* ladies' free programme

12.00 International Cricket. Tony Lewis presents highlights of the first day's play in the second Test between the West Indies and England, from Georgetown, Guyana

12.30am Film: Sweet Revenge (1976) starring Stockard Channing and Sam Waterston. Arrested on a minor charge, a determined young lady car thief Dandy Cochran persuades *public defender Philip Le Clerq to* release her on his own recognizance. Free again, she sets out to get the money she needs to fulfil her one dream in life — to own a Dino Ferrari sports car. Meanwhile, Le Clerq is determined to help her mend her ways. Directed by Jerry Schatzberg

1.55 Weather

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with News, read by Susie Grant, and **It's Stardust.** Alvin Stardust introduces songs, stories and poems about the environment (r) **7.00 WAC 90** presented by Tommy Boyd and Michaela Strachan

9.25 Motormouth 2. Tony Gregory finishes his interview with pop group New Kids on the Block, including exclusive footage of the group at work in America and the chance to win a pair of tickets to each of their British concerts later this year. *Plus limbo dancing, table-tennis and* the new singles from Erasure and Wet Wet Wet

11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The Vintage Video spot features Huey Lewis and the News

12.30 The Munsters Today: Computer Mating. Grandpa finds his perfect woman when he joins a video dating agency. Followed by **Get Ready for Telethon 90**

1.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather **1.05 LWT News** and weather

1.10 Saint & Greavsie. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves preview today's top football action

1.40 Sportsmasters. Sports quiz introduced by Dickie Davies

2.10 Coronation Street. Wednesday and Friday's episodes (r)

3.05 World Figure Skating Championships. Nick Owen hosts this afternoon's action from Halifax, Nova Scotia, which features the ice dance competition.

3.35 Athletics: Pearl Assurance National Indoor Championships. Live coverage from Cosford, introduced by Jim Rosenthal.

4.45 Results Service with Elton Welsby

5.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather **5.05 LWT News** and weather

5.15 Athletics: Pearl Assurance National Indoor Championships. Further action from Cosford introduced by Jim Rosenthal

5.45 Get Ready for Telethon 90. With Frank Bough and Judith Chalmers

6.15 Steal! Mark Walker presides over the quiz show in which contestants have to crack codes in order to win prizes

6.45 Haggard: Affair of Honour. Haggard, Roderick and Grunge are finally back at Haggard Hall, but home is not so sweet when they find themselves under house arrest. Starring Keith Barron and Reece Dinsdale. (Oracle)

7.15 You Bet!. Sharron Davies, John Iles and Bob Carolgees join Bruce Forsyth and a studio audience to bet on whether people will be able to tackle challenges put to them

8.15 Murder, She Wrote: *Fire Burn, Cauldron Bubble.* Cabot Cove is stunned by the apparent reappearance of a long-dead witch still practising black magic. *Starring Angela Lansbury.* Followed by **Get Ready for Telethon 90**

9.15 Yellowthread Street: The Red Pole. A top Triad assassin begins to kill off his friends and enemies alike. (Oracle)

10.15 News with Nicholas Owen. Sport and weather **10.30 LWT Weather**

10.35 Aspel and Company. Michael Aspel plays host to Richard Harris and The Who

11.20 Tour of Duty: Nowhere To Run. *Goldman and Anderson try to help* Percell who is in a very unstable frame of mind after having shot a child

12.20am Saturday Night at the Movies. Tony Slattery hears how Rob Lowe is moving from his heart-throb roles in *Oxford Blues* and *St Elmo's Fire* to less sympathetic characters in *Masquerade* and the forthcoming *Bad Influence.* Also, Danny DeVito talks about becoming a director and his difficulties in making the Michael Douglas/Kathleen Turner vehicle *War of the Roses.* Plus reviews of *Shadow Makers, Renegades* and *The Fabulous Baker Boys*

12.50 Derrick: Lena. Inspector Horn finds the evidence against a man supposed to have killed his wife overwhelming. The only witness to the murder was the man's deaf-mute sister-in-law. Can she communicate the truth to Horn?

2.00 American College Football. Florida versus Georgia

4.00 The Hit Man and Her. Michaela Strachan and Pete Waterman introduce the best of club music from around the country, with live bands and competitions

5.00 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at **6.00**

BBC 2

6.50 Open University

2.45 Strikant. In this last episode a *dowry is provided for both the* Thakurs' daughters by Rajlakshmi (r) (in Hindi with English subtitles)

3.20 Tex Avery Double Bill (r)

3.55 The Pretty Route to Weston. In praise of the Weston, Clevedon and Portishead Light Railway. Presented by Gwyn Richards (r)

4.05 Film: The Nun's Story (1959), starring Audrey Hepburn and Peter Finch. As she begins her training, *Sister Luke finds the principle of* unquestioning obedience hard to observe. When she is sent to work in a hospital in the Congo as assistant to Dr Fortunati, an atheist, his taunting remarks make obedience even harder. Directed by Fred Zinnemann

6.30 Rhythms of the World: Can You Dance the Polka? (see Choice)

7.20 Newsview with Moira Stuart and Lynette Lithgow. Weather

8.05 Missionaries: Battleground. Presenter Julian Pettifer goes to Papua New Guinea — host to the largest, most active missionary community in the world with over 40 different Western denominations all competing for converts. Pettifer gains rare access to the New Tribes Mission, one of America's largest, richest and most aggressively-fundamental Mission groups

8.55 Saturday Night Clive. Clive James takes a look at television output the world over, with help from this week's guest, comedian Mike McShane

9.40 A Pretty British Affair (r) (see Choice)

10.25 Film: A Matter of Life and Death (1946) starring David Niven, Roger Livesey and Kim Hunter. The Michael Powell season begins with this fantasy drama about Peter Carter, a Second World War pilot who cheats death only for Heaven to realize that it has made a mistake and that Carter is really supposed to be in the celestial cockpit. Director Michael Powell

12.05am I Know Where I'm Going (1945, b/w) starring Wendy Hiller, Roger Livesey and Pamela Brown. Joan Webster's belief that she knows exactly what she wants from life is shaken when, en route to the Hebrides to marry a wealthy, elderly businessman, she meets a young naval officer. Directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger. Ends at **1.40**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Durrell in Russia (r) **6.30 Just 4 Fun 7.00 Once upon a Time...Life 7.30 International Times — World News 8.00 Trans World Sport**

9.00 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line 9.25 Sing and Swing with the stars of the 1930s and 1940s

9.30 Same Difference (r) **10.00 Travelog** (r)

10.30 Film: The Story of Louis Pasteur (1936, b/w) starring Paul Muni in an Oscar-winning role as the celebrated French scientist. Directed by William Dieterle

12.10 Buster Keaton Rides Again (1965, b/w). A profile of the silent comedy star as he makes one of his last films, *Railrodder.* Directed by John Sprotton

1.10 Film: Chance of a Lifetime (1950, b/w) starring Bernard Miles. Striking workers are offered to chance to run the business by the factory owner. Directed by Bernard Miles and Alan Osbiston

2.55 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park. *The 3.00, 3.35, 4.10 and 4.40*

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (r). (Oracle)

6.00 Right To Reply. C4's *Women of South Lebanon* is accused of being politically biased

6.30 Scottish Eye examines the health risks taken by workers in "Silicon Glen".

7.00 The World This Week

7.15 Europe Express reports on the rebuilding of Berlin. Weather

8.00 Adventures: The Journey. Six young jailbirds undertake a month-long trek across New Zealand in an attempt to change their behaviour. (Oracle)

9.00 thirtysomething. American comedy drama series (Oracle)

10.00 4 Play International: A Death in the Family. Andy Boyd is gay, dying from Aids and has been brought to his New Zealand home by friends who take care of him in his last days. Starring John Watson

11.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. An all-male audience discuss what they want from women

11.50 Yachting: Whitbread Round the World Race. An up-date on the fourth leg from Gareth Evans

12.35am Film: The Black Cat (1934, b/w) starring Boris Karloff as a sadistic Austrian who abducts and murders a woman and her daughter. Directed by Edgar G. Ulmer

1.50 Film: The Raven (1935, b/w) *starring Bela Lugosi as a Poe-obsessed doctor who swears* revenge after he is turned down as a prospective son-in-law. Directed by Lewis Friedlander. Ends at **2.55**

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: 5.15pm-5.05 Wales on Saturday SCOTLAND: 4.40pm-5.05 Afternoon Sportscene 5.15-5.20 Scottish News and Sport 9.40 Scottish Comedy Classics 10.05-10.50 Sportscene NORTHERN IRELAND: 5.15pm-5.20 Northern Ireland News and Sport 10.50 The Show 11.50 Rory Bremner 12.25am World Figure Skating championships 1.00 International Cricket 1.30 Close

BBC2 SCOTLAND: 2.45pm-4.05 Conference 90

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Broadway Malady 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Contract on Cherry Street 2.35am Indy Chart 4.15 Sledge Hammer! 4.45-5.00 Comedy Store.

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Ski Tips 2.10-3.05 Grizzly Adams 5.45-6.15 Wild Rides 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Three Strikes, You're Out 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00am Hit Man and Her 4.00 1st Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Double Deckers 5.45-6.15 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: The Canary Sedan 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Coalminer's Slaughter 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.50am Film: Wicked Lady 3.40 Invisible Man 4.05-5.00 American College Football

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Ski Tips 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 11.20 Film: Topaz 1.40 Saturday Night at the Movies 2.10 Raw Power 3.10 Stories in the Night 3.40-4.00 Comedy Store.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Ski Tips 8.15-9.15 Murder She Wrote: Weave A Tangled Web 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00am Hit Man and Her 4.00 1st Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends 2.10-3.05 Fall Guy 5.45-6.15 Just For Laughs 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Murder Through the Looking Glass 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00am Hit Man and Her 4.00 First Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends 5.45-6.15 Munsters Today 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Broadway Malady 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Crime Story 12.50am Three's Company 1.20 Film: Charley Varrick 3.25-5.00 Indy Cart Racing.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: No Variations.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 NB 5.45-6.15 Campbells 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Wearing of the Green 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Harper 2.00am Hit Man and Her 4.05 Twilight Zone 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 South West Week 1.40-2.10 Ski Tips 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Double Exposure 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00 Hit Man and Her 4.00 1st Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Ski Tips 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: The Search for Peter Kerry 11.20 Film: Topaz 1.40am Saturday Night at the Movies 2.10 Raw Power 3.10 Stories in the Night 3.40-4.00 Comedy Store.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends 2.10-3.05 Fall Guy 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 8.10-9.15 Magnum 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00am Hit Man and Her 4.00 First Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten.

ULSTER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 School Quiz 2.10-3.05 Grizzly Adams 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 11.20 Saturday Night at the Movies 11.50 Film: Big Red One 2.00 Hit Man and Her 4.00 1st Exposure 4.30-5.00 America's Top Ten.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Batman 5.45-6.15 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 8.15-9.15 Murder, She Wrote: Trouble in Eden 12.45am Film: Gargoyles 1.55 Hit Man and Her 4.00-5.00 Rags to Riches.

S4C Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 Sing and Swing 9.30 Same Difference 10.00 Wattie Tales 10.30 Art of the Western World 11.00 Growing Places 11.30 Travelog 12.00 4th Dimension 12.30pm Blue Pullman 12.55 Film: Kismet 2.55 Racing 5.05 Brookside 6.00 Right to Reply 6.30 Wonder Years 7.00 Gophers 7.30 News 7.40 Milltiron 8.20 Y Maes Chwarae 9.10 Cyfansoddwyr 10.00 Film: Sammy and Rosie Get Laid 11.50 Yachting 12.35am Film: Black Cat 1.50 Film: The Raven 2.55 Close.

RTE 1 Starts: 9.00am Scratch Saturday 1.00pm Bionic Woman 2.00 Flash Gordon 2.35 Film: Four in a Jeep 4.15 Film: Doctor in Love 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 6.15 Mailbag 6.35 Famous Teddy Z 7.05 Baywatch 8.00 Candid Camera 8.30 Shades of Red 9.00 News 9.20 Last of a Dyin' Race 10.20 Kenny "Live" 11.45 Wolf 12.35am News, Close.

NETWORK 2 Starts: 12.04pm Sports Stadium 5.05 Ben Hur 6.00 Perfect Strangers 6.30 Suil Thart 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Rapido 7.30 Tracey Ullman 8.00 Film: Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean 10.10 Decalogue 11.10 Friedrich Gulda and Chick Corea 12.10am Close.

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Barrier Reef **6.30** Flying Kiwi **7.00** *Fun Factory* **11.00** The Bionic Woman **12.00** Frank Bough's World **1.00pm** What a Country **1.30** Cricket: West Indies v England, first day of the second Test from Guyana **10.00** WWF Superstars of Wrestling 89 **11.00** Sky World News Tonight **11.30** The Untouchables

SKY NEWS

News on the hour. **5.00am** Sky News **5.30** Beyond 2000 **6.30** The Unesco Report – Sri Lanka **7.30** Frank Bough This Week **8.30** Beyond 2000 **9.30** The Reporters **10.30** Motor Sports News **11.30** The Unesco Report **12.30pm** Fashion TV **1.30** The Reporters **2.30** Motor Sports News **3.30** Our World – A View of Britain: Wells Cathedral **4.30** Beyond 2000 **5.30** Entertainment This Week **6.30** Fashion TV **7.30** The Reporters **8.40** Greyhound Racing **9.45** The Best of Target **10.30** Entertainment This Week **11.30** *Fashion TV* **12.30am** The Best of Target **1.30** Motor Sports News **2.30** Entertainment This Week **3.30** The Reporters **4.30** Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES

From **8.00am The Shopping Channel**

2.00pm Biggles (1986): The First World War hero and a modern-day fast-food entrepreneur are caught up in an adventure through the trenches of time. With *Neil Dickson*

4.00 Yogi and the Invasion of the Space Bears: Animated adventure

6.00 Dream Date (1988): An over-protective father shadows his daughter when she goes out on a date with the star of the high school football team

7.40 Entertainment Tonight

8.00 Broadcast News (1987): A romantic triangle develops between a talented female producer, a handsome anchorman and a tough reporter. With Holly Hunter, William Hurt and Albert Brooks

10.10 UK Top 10: Cinema films

10.30 The Fourth Protocol (1986): Michael Caine as a British agent out to stop Russian Pierce Brosnan detonating a nuclear device on British soil

12.30am She's Gotta Have It (1986): A New York woman (Tracy Camilla) finds herself courted by three very different men

2.00 Vamp (1986): Three college kids uncover a nest of urban vampires in a sleazy night club

4.00 The Culpepper Cattle Company (1972): A teenage boy accompanies a trail boss on a tough and perilous cattle drive. With Gary Grimes. Ends at **5.30am**

EUROSPORT

6.00am Barrier Reef **6.30** The Flying Kiwi **7.00** Fun Factory **9.00** Ford Ski Report **10.00** Biathlon World Championships **11.00** World Cup Skiing **12.30pm** F1 Motor Racing USA **1.00pm** Handball: World Championships **4.00** Trans World Sport **5.00** Wheels **6.00** Surfer Magazine **6.30** Trax **7.00** Figure Skating: World Championships **9.00** Boxing: Saturday Night Fights **10.30** F1 Motor Racing USA **11.00** Figure Skating: World Championships

MTV

6.30am Non-Stop Pure Pop, incl Remote Control **9.30** US Top 20 **11.00** Yo! **11.30** Week in Rock **12.00** Ray Cokes **12.30pm** Club MTV **1.00** Ray Cokes **4.00** Eurythmics Special **4.30** XPO **5.00** The Big Picture **5.30** Party Zone **7.30** Kristiane Backer **10.30** Club MTV **11.00** Erotika **11.30** Maiken Wexo **2.00am** Night Videos

SCREENSPORT

1.00am US College Basketball **2.30** Wide World of Sport **3.30** Rugby League **5.00** Tennis **6.30** Polo World **7.00** Pro Bowlers **8.15** Football **10.00** Ice Hockey **12.00** Argentinian Football **1.00pm** Tennis **2.30** French Rugby League **4.00** Motor Racing **6.00** Update; US Pro Ski Tour **6.30** Powersports **7.30** Tennis **9.00** Ice Speedway **10.00** Argentinian Football **11.00** US Professional Boxing

LIFESTYLE

12.00 Jason of Star Command **12.30pm** The Secrets of Isis **1.00** Smothers Brothers **1.30** McKeever & The Colonel **2.00** Championship Rodeo **3.00** Wrestling **4.00** The Edge of Night

● Full information on satellite TV programmes is available in the weekly magazine, TV Guide.

Another monk is clued up

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● Like Umberto Eco's William of Baskerville in *The Name of the Rose*, Ellis Peters's Brother Cadfael in **One Corpse Too Many** (Radio 4, 7.45pm) is a medieval sleuth in monk's habit and, like William, is a dab hand at sniffing out the identity of a murderer. Tonight's play is Alan Downer's adaptation of a first-rate Brother Cadfael mystery. Why, he wonders, is one man found strangled when all the other prisoners executed after a battle were hanged? The red herring which Peters drags across the murder trail *did not put me off the scent* any more than it does Glyn Houston's cowled detective.

● Other recommended listening: Scottish Opera's production of Verdi's **La forza del destino** (Radio 3, 7.20pm) which will please some, displease others by restoring the opera's original 1862 ending, dropped in 1869, and substituting a prelude for the popular overture. Transmission of the opera clashes, unfortunately, with the repeat broadcast of **An Evening in Vienna** (Radio 2, 7.30pm) which loses nothing by being, in truth, an evening in Preston. It takes more than a mere change of venue to vaporize the spirit of the Strausses. **Age to Age** (Radio 4, 4.00pm) should be worth tuning in to, because Lord Briggs will be talking about British broadcasting — past, present, and (more importantly, in these changing times) future.

Glyn Houston: plays Brother Cadfael (Radio 4, 7.45pm)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

ANLACE
(b) A short, two-edged knife or dagger, broad at the hilt and tapering to the point, formerly worn at the girdle, found in medieval Latin as *anelatius*; Byron: "The Spanish maid the anlace hath espoused/Sung the loud song and dared the deed of war."

BARBER'S CAT
(c) A weak, sickly-looking, especially if thin, person from about 1860; textual critics suggest it is a corruption of "bare brisket"; also a gossipy person, "Like the barber's cat — all wind and piss."

KILLOCK
(a) Or *killick*, a small anchor, or its fluke; in the Royal Navy a leading seaman, from his badge, bearing the symbol of an anchor.

KITCHENALIA
(a) Collectible items of antique or by-gone kitchen equipment; the usual suffix for collected objects is *-ana*, but *kitchenana* would sound silly: "I wish people would refrain from calling kitchen antiques kitchenalia."

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW

5.00am Tim Smith **7.00** The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show **10.00** Dave Lee Travis

1.00pm Adrian Juste **2.00** The Classic Albums: Led Zeppelin 4. Jimmy Page talks to Roger Scott about this classic album **3.00** The Saturday Sequence with Richard Skinner **7.00** Andy Peebles Soul Train **9.30** In Concert: Featuring Al Stewart, recorded at the Cambridge Folk Festival last August **10.30** The Mary Whitehouse Experience

11.00-2.00am The Saturday Rock Show with Alan Freeman

RADIO 2

FM Stereo

5.00, FM only)
4.00am Dave Bussey **6.00** Graham Knight **8.05** Dennis Quilley **9.00** Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Anne Robinson **12.00** Gerald Harper **1.30pm** Pull the Other One! **2.00** Robin Ray on Record **3.00** Katie Boyle **5.00** Ralph McTell, recorded at the *Royal Festival Hall* **6.00** Cinema 2 **6.30** Myself When Young: Nerys Hughes **7.00** The ABC Quiz **7.30** Saturday Night Gala (see Choice) **9.30** String Sound **10.05** Martin Kelner **12.05am** Night Owls **1.00** Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

5.00am German Features **5.35** News in German; Headlines in English and French **5.50** Financial News **5.56** Weather and Travel News **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Londres Matin **7.00** News **7.09** 24 Hours **7.30** From the Weekly **7.45** Network UK **8.00** News **8.09** Words of Faith **8.15** A Jolly Good Show **9.00** News **9.15** The World Today **9.30** Financial News; Sports Roundup **9.45** World Brief **10.01** Here's Humph **10.15** Letter from America **10.30** People and Politics **11.00** News **11.09** News about Britain **11.15** A Plain Man's Guide to the World of Money **11.30** Midi Magazine **12.00** Newsreel **12.15pm** Multitrack 3 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** 24 Hours **1.30** Network UK **1.45** Personal View **2.01** The Ken Bruce Show **2.30** Sportsworld **3.00** Newsreel **3.15** Sportsworld **4.00** News **4.09** News about Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Nachrichten **4.40** German Features **5.00** News; Headlines in English **5.01** Sportsworld **5.30** Londres Soir **6.15** BBC English **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** German Features **7.45** Nachrichten **8.00** News **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Meridian **9.01** Sports Roundup **9.15** A Plain Man's Guide to the World of Money **9.30** Otherwise **10.00** Newshour **11.00** News **11.05** Words of Faith **11.10** Book Choice **11.15** A Jolly Good Show **12.00** Newsdesk **1.01am** Play of the Week: Red Herrings **2.00** News **2.09** Review of the British Press **2.15** The Voyages of Captain Cook **2.30** The Ken Bruce Show **3.00** News **3.09** News about Britain **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent **3.30** Jazz Score **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Personal View **4.45** Nachrichten und Presseschau

Nerys Hughes: recalls memories of her childhood in *Myself When Young*, presented by Claire Rayner (Radio 2, 6.30pm)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University (FM only)

6.55 Weather and News Headlines

7.00 Morning Concert: Fauré (Suite, masques et bergamasques: Suisse Romande under Ansermet); Chabrier (Overture, Gwendoline: French National Orchestra under Jordan)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Dohnányi (Suite, Op 19: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under Sargent); Stravinsky (Scènes de ballet: Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under Bernstein)

8.30 News

8.35 Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev: BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra under Howard Williams, with Kathryn Stott, piano, performs Tchaikovsky (Overture, The Storm, Op 76); Prokofiev (Concerto No 3 in C, Op 26); Tchaikovsky (Ballad, The Voyevoda)

9.30 Saturday Review with Richard Osborne. Record Review — Building a Library: Fritz Spiegl on Mozart's Flute Quartets; 20th-century releases are reviewed by Stephen Walsh **10.40** Record Release: Stravinsky (Ballet, Pulcinella: Soloists; City of London Sinfonia under Hickox); Weill (Ballads of Sexual Obsession; of Immoral Earnings "Threepenny Opera": Soloists: RIAS Berlin Sinfonietta under Mauceri); Martinů (Violin Concerto No 2: Czech Philharmonic Orchestra under Neumann, with Josef Suk, violin); Weill (Cantata, The Ballad of Magna Carta: Soloists; Pro Musica, Cologne; Cologne Radio Orchestra under Latham-Koenig); Debussy (Images: CBSO under Rattle)

1.00pm News

1.05 Words: Theologian Don Cupitt with four reflections on language. Part 1: Word

1.10 Early Music Network (FM *only from 1.30*): Nonsuch Consort of Voices under John Milsom sings madrigals by Thomas Weelkes and John Wilbye

1.30-9.00 Test Match Special (MW only): Commentary on the first day of the second Cable and Wireless Test, West Indies v England at Georgetown, Guyana

2.00 Matthews and Bennett (FM only): Berlin Oboe Quartet performs Colin Matthews (Quartet); Richard Rodney Bennett (Quartet)

2.35 From the Proms 1989 (FM only): Berlin RSO under Vladimir Ashkenazy performs Brahms (Symphony No 1); Shostakovich (Symphony No 6), incl **3.25** Interval Reading

4.15 Poet of the Month (FM only): James Fenton *introduces "The Ballad of* the Imam and the Shah" and "Jerusalem"

4.25 Début: The pianist Roy Howat performs Debussy (Estampes); Peter Sculthorpe (Mountains, 1981); Wendy Hiscocks (Joyu — first UK broadcast); Chabrier (Scherzo-valse "Pièces pittoresques")

5.00 Jazz Record Request (FM only) with Peter Clayton

5.45 Critics' Forum (FM only): Anthony Thwaite, in the chair, with Sheridan Morley, Marina Warner and John Wilders, discuss August Wilson's *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* at the Tricycle Theatre; the Magnum photographers' exhibition, In Our Time, at the Hayward Gallery; Oliver Stone's film *Born on the Fourth of July*; and A.S. Byatt's novel *Possession*

6.35 Verdi by Liszt (FM only): The pianist Claudio Arrau performs Liszt's paraphrases of Simon Boccanegra, I Lombardi and Don Carlo

7.00 Letter from Glasgow (FM only): Reflections from playwright John McGrath

7.20 La forza del destino (FM only until **9.00**): Scottish Opera Chorus under David David Drummond and Orchestra under John Mauceri perform Verdi's four-act opera. Elijah Moshinsky's new production for Scottish Opera, which restores the original 1862 ending, is introduced by Gordon Stewart. Acts 1 and 2 (see Choice) **8.45** Elijah Moshinsky discusses his staging of *Forza* **9.00** Act 3 **10.05** John Mauceri talks about the music of Verdi's most structured opera **10.20** Act 4

11.00 Danish Radio Big Band: Scandinavian Season. John Surman introduces the first of two highlights from a recent Barbican concert, with music by some of the ensemble's former directors, including Thad Jones, Ray Pitts and Bill Holman. With guests Van Morrison and Georgie Fame

12.00 News

12.05am Close

RADIO 4

LW (s) Stereo on FM

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** The Farming Week: Includes a tour of Mull; the Scottish NFU; and a crucial week in Brussels

6.50 Prayer for the Day with James Whitbourn **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, with *John Humphrys and Peter* Hobday, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.55, 8.58** Weather

9.00 News

9.05 Sport on 4 with Cliff Morgan

9.30 Breakaway: Holiday and travel news. Presented by Bernard Falk, with Nigel Coombs

10.00 News; Loose Ends: With Clive Anderson and guests Robert Elms, Emma Freud and John Walters (s)

11.00 News; The Week in Westminster with Peter Jenkins, associate editor of *The Independent*

11.30 Europhile: Weekly magazine reflecting people, life and change in Europe. This week, the challenge of reform in Romanian schools and how refugees are treated by Sweden

12.00 Money Box with Louise Botting and Vincent Duggleby

12.25pm I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue: Last in the series of the humorous panel game. With Tim Brooke-Taylor, Willie Rushton, Graeme Garden and Barry Cryer. Humphrey Lyttelton in the chair (s) **12.55** Weather

1.00 News

1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby in Kings Lynn, Norfolk, with panellists Tony Blair, MP; *The Telegraph* group editor, Max Hastings; Charles Kennedy, MP; and Sheila Lawlor, deputy director of studies at the Centre for Policy Studies (r)

2.00 News; Any Answers? 01-580 4411. Jonathan Dimbleby takes listeners' calls on issues raised in *Any Questions?*

2.30 Poor Things: Play by Jane Coles (s) (r)

4.00 Age to Age with Barry Cunliffe. Examines the changing face of radio and television in Britain, following the Government's new Broadcasting Bill (see Choice)

4.30 Science Now with Peter Evans

5.00 In Exile: Jonathan Steinberg talks to four expatriates who have settled in Britain. Part 4: Zdena Tomin, novelist and former Charter 77 activist, explains why she is unable to return to her native Czechoslovakia (r)

5.25 Week Ending: Satirical review of the week's news. With Bill Wallis, David Tate, Sally Grace and John Baddeley (r) **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 News; Sports Round-up

6.25 Citizens omnibus edition (s)

7.10 Stop the Week (s)

7.45 Saturday-Night Theatre: One Corpse too Many. Alan Downer's dramatization of a Brother Cadfael mystery by Ellis Peters. A monastery in 1138. Brother Cadfael's *peaceful life is shattered by* murder. With Glyn Houston as Brother Cadfael, Jane Slavin as Godith Adeney, Richard Tate as King Stephen/Prior Robert, John Moffatt as Gilbert Prescote/Brother Louis, Geoffrey Whitehead as Adam Courcelle, Joan Walker as Aline Siward and Ken Cumberlidge as Hugh Beringar (s) (see Choice)

9.15 Music in Mind: Brian Kay presents a selection of popular melodies — this week with a French flavour (s)

9.50 Ten to Ten led by Canon Geoffrey Brown (s) **9.59** Weather

10.00 News

10.15 Open Mind: John Lloyd challenges three experts to discuss a topic with open minds

10.45 Telling Lies: Four *programmes about deceit* and the detection of lying (2) (r)

11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with Brian Large and Geoffrey Parker on the expertise involved in music broadcasting (s) (r)

11.30 Saturday-Night Fry: Comedy with Stephen Fry, Hugh Laurie and Jim Broadbent and Alison Steadman (s) (r)

12.00-12.30am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast

FM as LW except:
1.55-2.00pm Programme News **4.30-5.00** Options: **4.30** Understanding the Media **5.00** Using Your Wordpower **5.30** Deutsch Express!

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. (London area FM-104.8.) **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m; FM-90-92.4. **Radio 4:** 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **Greater London Radio:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **World Service:** MW 648kHz/463m.

SUNDAY'S TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Painting life's canvas

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

● Going by the plot you would think that having treated BBC1 viewers to *A Sense of Guilt*, Andrea Newman had moved over to the Beeb's other channel. Adapted from Nina Bawden's novel by Stephen Wakelam, **Circles of Deceit** (BBC2, 9.55pm) has the typical Newman ingredients. Edward Fox plays Philip Proctor, a painter with an unfaithful wife and schizophrenic son who loses both and embarks on an affair with his young housekeeper. But this is a piece of several layers and not a little symbolism in which the deception of the human relationships finds its echo in the paintings which Philip copies from Old Masters and Breughel's "Icarus" stands as a metaphor for the lost son. Skilfully directed by the veteran Stuart Burge, *Circles of Deceit* is uniformly well cast, with John Nettleton, John Bird and Brenda Saunders standing out in supporting roles and Jane Lapotaire and Clare Holman excellent as the wife and mistress. The reservation concerns Fox, whose languid and mannered performance seems curiously out of place.

Edward Fox and Jane Lapotaire as the painter and his wife (BBC2, 9.55pm)

RADIO CHOICE

Peter Davalle

● As I spend much of my public life giving readings from Dickens, I am naturally prejudiced in favour of the new 10-part series **Reading Aloud** because it kicks off (Radio 4, 8.40pm) with *An Italian Dream*, the Venetian sequence from Dickens's *Pictures from Italy*. Another reason I recommend it is that tonight's reader is Derek Jacobi who has already proved how well attuned to Dickens he is by giving us an Arthur Clennam to the life in the film of *Little Dorrit* . . . Fashionably, the BBC World Service is going "green", with a season of environmental debates and features including **A World of Waste** (11.30pm), an inquiry by Jonathan Head into the right and wrong things they are doing with our rubbish. A documentary full of non-expendable facts.

BBC 1

6.45 Open University
8.55 Playdays (r)
9.15 Morning Worship from Sussex University's campus chaplaincy
10.00 Bazaar. Janice Long presents the lifestyle magazine including household, beauty and fashion tips (r) **10.25 Buongiorno Italia!** Italian for beginners (r)
10.50 Europeans. Chantal Cuer looks at Italian attitudes to death (r) **11.20 You in Mind.** Coping with insomnia (r)
11.30 Step Up to Wordpower. Improving reading and writing for adults, presented by Chris Serle. (Ceefax) **11.35 You Are What You Eat.** Healthy eating (r). (Ceefax)
12.05 See Hear! Magazine for the hearing impaired
12.30 Country File. Rupert Segar reports on French research being carried out to combat the spread of rabies **12.55 Weather**
1.00 News with Moira Stuart followed by **On the Record: The Inscrutable Electorate.** Emily Buchanan reports on what influences voters' intentions **2.00 EastEnders** (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 Match of the Day Live: The Road to Wembley. The FA Cup quarter-final match between Liverpool and QPR, with highlights of the other three quarter-final matches. Followed by the draw for the semifinals
5.00 It Doesn't Have To Hurt. June Whitfield's painless exercise series. (Ceefax)
5.10 The Clothes Show. Selina Scott and Jeff Banks mingle with the designers, buyers, make-up artists, models, photographers and reporters at London Fashion Week. (Ceefax)
5.30 Antiques Roadshow from Hornchurch, Essex. (Ceefax)
6.15 Quit and Win. With three days before National No Smoking Day, advice on how to kick the habit
6.25 News with Moira Stuart. Weather
6.40 Songs of Praise from Wimborne Minster. (Ceefax)
7.15 Don't Wait Up. Comedy series starring Tony Britton and Nigel Havers as father and son medical men. (Ceefax)
7.45 Bergerac: The Messenger Boy. The Jersey detective is in London trying to solve a kidnapping case. Starring John Nettles. (Ceefax)
8.40 Mastermind. This week's specialist subjects are: flat racing in Britain since 1945; medicine from Hippocrates to Lister; MGM pictures 1924-1960; and the RAF 1918-1976
9.10 That's Life! Consumer affairs series
9.55 News with Martyn Lewis. Weather
10.10 Heart of the Matter. Joan Bakewell reports on a special scheme by London's Tower Hamlets Council to establish an Aids centre, which has received fierce opposition from local people. Compelled to set up an independent commission to look into the matter, the Council is now faced with the predicament of having to fund the opposition's case as well as its own
10.45 World Figure Skating Championships. Barry Davies looks at highlights of the past week's action in Halifax, Nova Scotia
11.30 Dear John: USA. John's ex-wife dumps his ex-best friend who then looks for a shoulder to cry on
11.55 The Sky at Night. As Austin's comet moves into the northern part of the sky, Patrick Moore is joined by comet observer Harold Ridley
12.15am Cricket. Highlights of the second day's play in the second Test between West Indies and England in Georgetown, Guyana, introduced by Tony Lewis
12.45 Sinbad. Final episode (r)
1.25am Weather

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with **Good Morning Moments** presented by Ulrika Jonsson **7.00 Dappledown Farm** introduced by Brian Cant
8.00 David Frost on Sunday. The guests include Cecil Parkinson and, reviewing the newspapers, Michael White and Eve Pollard
9.25 Film: Big Red (1961) starring Walter Pidgeon, Gilles Payant and Emile Genest. Concluding the tale of orphan René who befriends his boss's prize red setter. Directed by Norman Tokar
10.15 The Campbells. James's daughter, Emma, is sent to a finishing school, where her writing gives cause for concern
10.45 Link. Kevin Mulhern talks to members of People First, a group which helps people with learning difficulties
11.00 Morning Worship from the Park Place Pastoral Centre in Hampshire
12.00 Encounter. John Hatton, principal of the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association's school in Birmingham, talks about what can be done to help his 36 deaf and blind pupils
12.30 Get Ready for Telethon 90 12.40 Police 5 12.55 LWT News and weather
1.00 News at One with Sue Carpenter. Weather
1.10 Eyewitness. With items on professional child care; a smokable form of amphetamine; Boris Yeltsin; and Wrens at sea
2.00 McCloud: Sharksl, part one. The body of an Indian girl sets McCloud off on the trail of a loan shark.
3.00 Film: Reach for the Sky (1956 b/w), starring Kenneth More. Dramatized version of the life of Second World War flying ace Douglas Bader. Directed by Lewis Gilbert. Followed by **Get Ready for Telethon '90**
5.30 Bullseye
6.00 Rescue: Missing. 202 Squadron, based in Lossiemouth, is called out to the Ocean Odyssey drilling rig where, following a fire, one of the crew members is missing
6.30 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather **6.35 LWT News**
6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Secombe visits Westerham, Kent
7.15 The Two of Us: The Quest. Ashley and Elaine join a hunt for treasure worth £5,000. (Oracle)
7.45 Inspector Morse: The Ghost in the Machine. Morse and Sergeant Lewis investigate the theft of a valuable collection of erotic paintings (r). (Oracle)
9.50 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather **10.05 LWT Weather.**
10.10 One More Audience with **Dame Edna** (r)
11.10 The South Bank Show. The work of the DV8 Physical Theatre, a performance group which has attracted considerable praise since its formation in 1986 for its work, which uses movement and gesture instead of dialogue
12.10am International Athletics. Jim Rosenthal presents coverage of the McVitie's World Cross Country trials at Bellahouston Park in Glasgow
12.35 The ITV Chart Show (r). **1.55 Pick of the Week.**
2.35 Film: Black Orchid (1952) starring Ronald Howard and Olga Edwards. A doctor is so committed to his work that he neglects his wife. When her sister arrives to act as his assistant, they fall in love and his wife agrees to a divorce. But the law forbids a man to marry his divorced wife's sister so, when the wife is found murdered, there are two very obvious suspects. Directed by Charles Saunders
3.30 Hillary's Adventurers includes ballooning
4.00 Nascar. Stock car racing
5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at **6.00**

BBC 2

6.35 Open University
12.00 Westminster Week 12.35 Around Westminster
1.00 Tropical Rainforest in Mexico (r) **1.25 Weekend Outlook**
1.30 40 Minutes: Green Police (r). (Ceefax)
2.10 Erasure — "Wild". The group in concert in London's Docklands Arena
3.10 Film: The Sundowners (1960) starring Robert Mitchum, Deborah Kerr and Peter Ustinov. Drama set in the Australian outback in the 1920s, about an itinerant sheepdrover whose family wants to put down its roots. Directed by Fred Zinnemann
5.10 Rugby Special. Gloucester v Harlequins highlights introduced by Chris Rea. The commentator is Nigel Starmer-Smith
6.10 It's Garry Shandling's Show. American comedy series
6.35 The Money Programme. Includes a report on how stress in the workplace is costing companies a lot of money, forcing them to take the matter more seriously
7.15 Land of the Eagle: Conquering the Swamps. Part three of natural history of North America series. (Ceefax)
8.05 Airline: King's Way. Includes a profile of BA's chairman, Lord King
8.55 The British Academy Awards. Magnus and Sally Magnusson host this year's awards from Glasgow's Exhibition and Conference Centre. Includes 18 different craft categories embracing both film and television
9.55 Screen Two: Circles of Deceit. (Ceefax) (see Choice)
11.10 Grand Prix. Murray Walker and James Hunt with highlights of the US Grand Prix from Phoenix, Arizona.
11.45 Rapido (r)
12.15am Snub TV (r). Ends at **12.50**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Hallelujah! (r) **6.30 Country Ways** (r) **7.00 Growing Places** with Penelope Keith (r) **7.30 Box Office Weekly 8.00 The Bluffers 8.30 Children's Island.** Episode five **9.00 Dennis**
9.25 Spice. Eastern arts magazine
10.00 A Week in Politics
11.00 Boom! (r) **11.30 The Henderson Kids 12.00 The Waltons 1.00 Land of the Giants**
2.00 Ice Skating. World championships
3.00 Film: The Great American Fourth of July...And Other Disasters (1982) starring Matt Dillon. Middle-aged Ralph looks back to his teenage years. Directed by Dick Bartlett
4.05 Film: Les Bicyclettes de Belsize (1968). A young man falls in love with the photograph of a model. Directed by Douglas Hickox
4.40 Out of the East: Privatizing Poland (r) **5.25** News and weather
5.30 Art of the Western World. Works of the Viennese Secession artists
6.00 4th Dimension
6.30 The Wonder Years
7.00 Fragile Earth: Baikal — Blue Eye of Siberia. Siberia's Lake Baikal
8.00 The Media Show includes a report on the launch of BSB
9.00 Sinfonietta. The music of Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu
10.00 Film: Over the Edge (1979) starring Matt Dillon, Michael Kramer and Tom Fergus. Three Californian middle-class suburban teenagers become rebels without a cause. Directed by Jonathan Kaplan
11.50 The Street and Orientation Express. Two Canadian animations
12.00 Film: Sati (1989) starring Shabana Azmi as a mute young Brahmin woman who has become an embarrassment to her family because of her single status. Directed by Aparna Sen. Ends at **2.35am**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Hour of Power **7.00** Fun Factory **11.00** Hour of Power **12.00** Beyond 2000 **1.00pm** The Ropers **1.30** Cricket: West Indies v England, second day of the second Test from Guyana **8.45** Film: The Two Lives of Carol Letner **10.30** Those Were The Days **11.00** Sky World News Tonight **11.30** Entertainment This Week

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am Sky News **5.30** The Best of Target **6.30** The Unesco Report **7.30** Our World **8.30** Those Were the Days **9.30** Planet Earth **10.30** The Unesco Report **11.30** Beyond 2000 **12.30pm** 48 Hours **1.30** Those Were The Days **2.30** Planet Earth **3.30** Our World **4.30** Beyond 2000 **5.30** Entertainment This Week **6.30** The Unesco Report **7.30** Cops **8.30** Those Were The Days **9.30** 48 Hours **10.30** Entertainment This Week **11.30** Planet Earth **12.30am** Cops **1.30** Those Were The Days **2.30** 48 Hours **3.30** Entertainment This Week **4.30** Those Were The Days

SKY MOVIES

From **6.00am** The Shopping Channel
2.00pm Carry On Don't Lose Your Head: With the *Carry On* team
4.00 The Ryan White Story (1988): The true story of a young boy who contracted Aids through a blood transfusion
6.00 Hello Again (1987): Shelley Long as a housewife who dies and is brought back to life by her mystic sister
7.40 Projector: Movies on Sky
8.00 Hope and Glory (1987): An account of life in England during the Second World War, seen through the eyes of a young boy (Sebastian Rice Edwards)
10.00 The Morning After (1986): Jane Fonda as a washed-up actress who wakes up to find a murdered man in her bed
11.45 The Pick-Up Artist (1987): A teenage girl (Molly Ringwald) spurns the advances of a womaniser (Robert Downey, jun.)
1.30am Chariots of Fire (1981): A true-life drama set in and around the 1924 Olympics, following the fortunes of two sprinters. With Ben Cross and Ian Charleson
4.00 Just between Friends (1986): Two women friends are unaware they are both involved with the same man. With Mary Tyler Moore, Christine Lahti and Ted Danson. Ends at **5.30am**

EUROSPORT

5.00am The Hour of Power **7.00** Fun Factory **9.00** Trax **9.30** Figure Skating **11.30** Biatnion World Championships **12.30pm** F1 Motor Racing USA **1.00** Rugby League **2.00** Boxing **3.30** F1 Motor Racing **4.00** Athletics **6.00** Horse Show **7.00** Football: Barcelona v Celta **9.00** Formula 1 Motor Racing Grand Prix **11.00** Figure Skating

MTV

8.00am Ray Cokes **10.30** The Big Picture **11.00** European Top 20 **12.30pm** Club MTV **1.00** Paul King **4.30** Don Johnson Special **5.00** MTV's Greatest Hits **6.00** XPO **6.30** Knsbane Backer **9.30** New Visions: World Beat **10.00** Week in Rock **10.30** Club MTV **11.00** Videos

SCREENSPORT

12.30am French Rugby League **2.15** Pro Bowlers **3.30** Football **5.30** US Pro Ski Tour **6.00** Motor Racing **8.00** US College Basketball **9.30** US Pro Ski Tour **10.00** Golf **12.00** Football **2.00pm** Spain Spain Sport **2.15** Polo World **2.45** Pro Bowlers **4.00** Tennis **5.30** Sport en France **6.00** Update; Ice Hockey **8.00** Powersports **9.00** Ice Speedway **10.00** Rugby League **11.30** Boxing

● Full information on satellite TV programmes is available in the weekly magazine, TV Guide.

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: 10.50am The Flying Doctors 11.35 Time for Sport 12.30pm-1.00 Farming in Wales 1.25am-1.30 News and weather SCOTLAND: 12.30pm-1.00 Landward 3.00 Conference 90 4.10-5.00 Return Journey 11.30-11.55 Conference 90

BBC2 WALES: 12.35pm-1.00 See Hear! SCOTLAND: 12.00-1.00pm News Gallery 5.10-5.10 Rugby Special from Scotland NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.35pm-1.00 A Taste of Ulster

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming Diary 2.00 Members Only 2.30-3.00 Hidden Hoard 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Athletics 1.50 Ray Bradbury Theatre 2.30 Cinematractions 3.00 Transmission 4.00 Ski Tips 4.30-5.00 Pick of the Week.

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Scottish Labour Conference 2.00 Coronation Street 2.55 Rescue 3.30 Cover Story (Dudley Moore) 4.00 Fall Guy 5.00-5.30 Scotsport 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.35 Athletics 3.20 Pick of the Week 3.50-5.00 Chart Show.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Here and Now 2.00-3.00 Forgotten Bomber 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.10 Film: Shock 2.55 Ski Tips 3.35 Athletics 4.10-5.00 Jobfinder

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Les Français Chez-Vous 2.00 Katts & Dog 2.30-3.00 Bullseye 5.30 Rescue 6.00-6.30 Storyteller 11.40 Human Factor 12.05am One To One 12.40 Invisible Man 1.10 Athletics 1.55 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 2.25 Film: Death Riders 4.50 Pick of the Week 4.30-5.00 Coast to Coast People.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 10.45am Pick A Number 11.15 Link 11.30-12.00 Sunday Service 12.30pm-1.00 Scottish Labour Conference 2.00 Picadilly Walkabout 2.30 Who's The Boss? 3.00 Bodkin Adams 4.00 Just Living 4.30 Reflections 5.00-5.00 Scotsport 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.35 Athletics 3.20 Pick of the Week 3.50-5.00 Chart Show.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Granada This Week 2.00 Richmond Hill 2.55 Bullseye 3.25 Cartoon 3.45 Film: I Was A Mail Order Bride 5.35-6.30 Coronation Street 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.35 Athletics 3.20 Pick of the Week 3.50-5.00 Chart Show.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 West Country Farming 2.00 Newsweek 2.30 Highway to Heaven 3.25-4.30 Film: Esther and the King 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.10 Athletics 1.50 Chart Show 2.45 Silk Road 3.45 Hi Man and Her 4.45-5.00 Jobfinder.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 12.00-12.30pm Wales on Sunday 2.00-3.00 Shadow Across the Sun 3.00-3.25 Heart of the Country.

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming News 2.00 Fisheries News 2.30-3.00 Off the Peg 12.10am In the Heat of the Night 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.35 Athletics 3.20 Pick of the Week 3.50-5.00 Chart Show.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Agenda 2.00 Katts and Dog 2.30-3.00 Bullseye 5.30 Rescue 6.00-6.30 Storyteller 12.10am Human Factor 12.40 One to One 1.10 Athletics 1.55 Invisible Man 2.25 Death Riders 4.00 Pick of the Week 4.30-5.00 Coast to Coast People.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Back Page 5.35-5.50 Coronation Street 12.10am Inner Space 12.35 Invitation to Remember (Sir John Mills) 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.35 Athletics 3.20 Pick of the Week 3.50-5.00 Chart Show.

ULSTER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Ski Tips 2.00 Survival 2.25 Rescue 2.55 Bullseye 3.25 Film: Assassination Bureau 5.35-6.00 Coronation Street 12.10am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Quiz Night 1.35 I Spy 2.40 Athletics 3.25 Pick of the Week 3.55-5.00 Chart Show.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.25pm Goals on Sunday 12.50-1.00 News 2.00-3.00 Charlie's Angels 12.10am Scrumdown 1.10 The Bill 2.10 Athletics 2.55 Pick of the Week 3.25 Chart Show 4.35-5.30 Jobfinder.

S4C Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.00 Painted Tales 9.15 Halloc 10.00 A Week in Politics 11.00 Boom 11.30 Henderson Kids 12.00 Wizzbos 1.00pm Bwrw Milsen 1.20 Pobol 9 2.00 Figure Skating 3.00 Crystal Maze 4.00 Film: The Kid Brother 5.40 Adventures 6.40 San Steffan 7.00 O Bedwar Ban 7.15 Y Dyn Pegar Newydd 7.25 News 7.30 Hapus Dyrfa 8.00 Hal Sirwan 8.30 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 9.00 Mwy Na Phapur Newydd 9.45 Tystion 9.55 Media Show 10.55 Traffik 11.55 Women Call The Shots 12.20am Film: Sam 2.35 Close.

RTE 1 Starts: 9.40am Japanese for Beginners 10.10 Alias Gute 10.25 Buongiorno Italia! 10.50 A9 Muck and Magic 11.15 Morning Worship 12.00 Beyond 2000 12.45pm Little House on the Prairie 1.30 First Edition 2.00 Newsround 2.40 Disney Hour 3.35 Film: Wild in the Country 5.40 News 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 Ins 90 6.35 Cosby Show 7.00 Peaceable Kingdom 8.00 Where in the World? 8.30 Glenroe 9.00 News 9.30 Caught in the Act 10.25 Hanly's People 10.55 Film: Murder By The Book 12.40am News, Close.

NETWORK 2 Starts: 10.30am Spartacus 10.45 Land of the Giants 11.30 Bean Box 1.30pm Sesame Street 2.30 Rose the Great 3.00 Sea Urchins 3.55 Behind the Mask 5.10 Youth Plays for Armenia 6.05 Zorro 6.30 Real Food of China 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Newsweek 7.30 Far City 8.00 Ballet Mossiaev 9.05 Inspector Morse 11.05 Sports Special 12.00 Close.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW
News on the half-hour from **5.30am** until **12.30pm**, then at **2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30pm**
6.00 Tim Smith **7.00** The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show **9.30** Dave Lee Travis **12.30pm** Pick of the Pops: Alan Freeman with the week's Top 20 charts from 1969, 1974 and 1984 **3.00** Scruples II presented by Simon Mayo **5.30** Philip Schofield **6.00** Top 40 with Bruno Brookes **7.00** Anne Nightingale's Request Show **9.00** Andy Kershaw **11.00-2.00am** Bob Harris on Sunday

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** David Allan **6.00** Graham Knight **7.30** Good Morning Sunday **9.05** Melodies for You **11.00** Your Radio 2 All-Time Greats **2.00pm** Benny Green **3.00-5.00** FA Cup Special (MW only) **3.00** Sounds Easy **4.00** Orchestral Contrasts **4.30** Sing Something Simple **5.00** Charlie Chester (MW only) **7.00** An Actor's Life for Me **7.30** Operetta Nights **8.30** Sunday Half-Hour **9.00** Your Hundred Best Tunes **10.05** Songs from the Shows **10.45** Michael Round at the piano **11.00** Sounds of Jazz **1.00am** Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

RADIO 3

6.55am News and Weather
7.00 Handel: The fourth of 12 programmes. Two Arias for wind band (Academy of Ancient Music under Christopher Hogwood); Fugues: in G minor, HWV 605; in B flat, HWV 607 (Leo van Doeselaar, organ); Concerto grosso in A minor, Op 6 No 4 (Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman)
7.30 News
7.35 Moiseiwitsch: The fourth of seven programmes. Schumann (Kreisleriana, Op 16; Prophet Bird "Forest Scenes", Op 82 No 7); Beethoven (Sonata No 26 in E flat, Op 81a "Les Adieux")
8.30 News
8.35 Your Concert Choice: Arriaga (Symphony in D minor: ECO under Jésus Lopez-Cobos); Brahms (Ballades, Op 10: Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, piano); Doppler (Concerto for two flutes in D minor: National Opera Orchestra of Monte Carlo under Claudio Scimone); Rachmaninov (The Bells: SNO and Chorus under Neeme Järvi)
10.20 Music Weekly with Michael Oliver
11.15 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under George Hurst, with Ernst Kovacic, violin, performs Tippett (Ritual Dances); Britten (Violin Concerto); Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor)
1.00pm Song of Songs: BBC Singers; Endymion Ensemble under Simon Joly perform Palestrina (Osculatur me; Trahe me post te); James Antony Ellis (Song of Songs, Book 1 — BBC commission, first performance); Palestrina (Nigra sum; Vineam meam)
1.30-5.00pm Test Match Special (MW only): Commentary on the second day's play of the second Cable and Wireless Test. West Indies v England, from Georgetown, Guyana
1.30 Violin and Piano (FM only): Minam Fried and Clifford Benson perform Mozart (Sonata in E minor, K 304); Fauré (Sonata in A, Op 13); Smetana (From the Homeland)
2.30 Towards Bach (FM only): A selection of compositions from Bach's predecessors, performed by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Sigiswald Kuijken. J.S. Kusser (Ouverture No 4 in D minor, 1682); J. Rosenmüller (Sonata da camera No 5 in D minor, 1670); Corelli (Concerto grosso in F, Op 6 No 9); J.C.F. Fischer (Suite No 7 in G minor "Journal du printemps"); Bach (Orchestral Suites: No 1 in C; No 3 in D), incl **3.10** Interval Reading
4.00 Rubinstein on Record (FM only) with Graham Sheffield. The pianist Artur Rubinstein performs Chopin (Scherzo No 1 in B minor; Waltzes: in A flat, Op 34 No 1; in C sharp minor, Op 64 No 2; Sonata No 3 in B minor, Op 58; Waltzes: Op 70: in G flat; F minor, and D flat; Four Ballades) (r)
5.20 BBC Concert Orchestra (FM only) under Barry Wordsworth performs Chabrier (Fête polonaise); Busser (Petite suite); Debussy, orch Busser (Petite suite); Franck (Symphonic poem, Les Eolides)
6.15 Kaija Saariaho (FM only): Scandinavian Season. The Finnish composer talks with Michael Hall
7.00 Erich Leinsdorf and the Chicago SO (FM only) perform Strauss (Serenade for wind instruments); Brahms (Serenade No 2 in A); Strauss (Aus Italien)
8.30 Wolfgang Manz (FM only until **9.00**): The pianist performs Beethoven (Andante in F, WoO 57 "Andante favori"; Polonaise in C, Op 89; Rondo a capriccio in G, Op 129); Schumann (Faschingsschwank aus Wien); Brahms (Four Pieces, Op 119)
9.25 Music from Finland: Scandinavian Season. Capricorn under Oliver Knussen performs Lindberg (De Tartuffe, je crois); Salonen (Yta 1: with Helen Keen, alto flute); Saariaho (Lichtbogen: with Ian Dearden, electronics)
10.05 Third Ear with Robert Hewison
10.30 In manus tuas, Domine: A meditation on suffering and martyrdom, recorded in Arundel Castle, drawn from the writings of Henry Howard, Philip Howard and Robert Southwell, all three condemned to death for treason in 16th century England. With motets by William Byrd and Thomas Tallis, sung by the Nonsuch Consort of Voices
11.30 The Sacred Mysteries of Heinrich Biber: Sonata No 5 in A "The 12-year-old Jesus in the Temple"; Sonata No 6 in C minor "The Agony in the Garden"; Sonata No 7 in F "The Scourging of Jesus"
12.00 News **12.05am** Close

WORLD SERVICE

5.00am German Features **5.35** News in German; Headlines in English and French **5.47** Sports News **5.50** Financial Review **5.55** Weather and Travel News **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Londres Matin **7.00** News **7.09** 24 Hours; News Summary **7.30** From Our Own Correspondent **7.45** Book Choice **7.50** Waveguide **8.00** News **8.09** Words of Faith **8.15** The Pleasure's Yours **8.09** News **8.09** Review of the British Press **8.15** At Home With . . . **8.30** Financial Review **8.40** Book Choice **8.45** Short Story: Louie's Balloons **10.01** Science in Action **10.30** In Praise of God **11.00** News **11.09** News about Britain **11.15** From Our Own Correspondent **11.30** Midi Magazine **12.00** Play of the Week: Red Herrings **1.00pm** 24 Hours, incl World News **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.01** The Green Debates **3.00** Newsnut **3.15** International Recital **4.00** News **4.09** News about Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Nachrichten **4.40** German Features **5.00** News **5.09** Book Choice **5.15** Club 648 **5.30** Londres Soir **6.15** BBC English **6.30** Nachrichten **6.40** German Features **7.54** Nachrichten **8.00** World News **8.09** Personal View **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Screenplay **9.01** Sports Roundup **9.15** The Pleasure's Yours **10.00** Newshour **11.00** News **11.05** Words of Faith **11.15** Letter from America **11.30** A World of Waste (see Choice) **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30am** In Praise of God **1.01** The Green Debates **2.00** News **2.09** Review of the British Press **2.15** World of Music **2.30** Science in Action **3.00** News **3.09** New about Britain **3.15** Good Books **3.30** Anything Goes **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Letter from America **4.45** Nachrichten und Presseschau

RADIO 4

LW (s) Stereo on FM
5.55 Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Prelude (s) **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken (s) **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers
7.15 On Your Farm: Claire Powell visits Joe Henson and his family on their sheep and arable farm in the Cotswolds **7.40** Sunday, incl **7.55** Weather **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers **8.50** Appeal by Michael Heseltine, MP, on behalf of the National Gardens Scheme, which raises money for nursing and gardening charities **8.55** Weather
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service from Ararat Baptist Church, Whitchurch, Cardiff
10.15 The Archers omnibus edition
11.15 News Stand with Maureen O'Connor
11.30 Pick of the Week (s) (r)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley with Professor Sir George Porter, president of the Royal Society, and joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend with Nick Clarke **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time from Kent. Members of the Minster and Monkton Horticultural Society put their queries to Dr Stefan Buczacki, Fred Downham and Sue Phillips. With Clay Jones in the chair
2.30 Classic Serial: The Mystery of Edwin Drood, by Charles Dickens, dramatized in five parts by David Buck. Part 2: A Disappearance (s) (r)
3.30 The Radio Programme with Laurie Taylor (s)
4.00 News; Soundtrack: Blood Brothers. The first of six programmes. Peter Nasmyth reports on a meeting held in Moscow between American Vietnam veterans and Russian soldiers who fought in Afghanistan, who joined forces to share the horrors of war (r)
4.42 Profile: Hugh Prysor-Jones talks to Nikolai Tolstoy — novelist, romantic and radical historian
5.00 News; Down Your Way: Dr Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, visits Swindon
5.40 Lines of Communication: In the last of six programmes, Patrick Hannan talks about television **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News
6.15 Letter From . . . Calcutta. A series of four talks by foreign correspondents. Three hundred years after it was founded, Mark Tully explains why the former capital of the Raj still has much to celebrate, despite the city's notorious poverty
6.30 Europhile: Weekly magazine reflecting people, life and change in Europe
7.00 Cat's Whiskers presented by Andy Crane (s)
7.30 Bookshelf: Nigel Forde discovers what makes a classic textbook, and visits a warehouse crammed with books for Romania's libraries (r)
8.00 Punters (new series): An opportunity for listeners to report on life's problems, injustices and quirks. With Susan Marling (r)
8.40 Reading Aloud (new series) (see Choice)
9.00 News; Enquire Within: Dilly Barlow tackles listeners' questions (r)
9.15 The Natural History Programme with Jessica Holm and Fergus Keeling **9.59** Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The Churchill Years (new series): Six plays by David Wheeler documenting Winston Churchill's career. With Daniel Massey. Part 1: A Shooting Star (s) (r)
11.00 In Committee presented by John Turnbull
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Part 2: More Than Meets the Eye? The Rev Dr John Polkinghorne presents six programmes for Lent (s)
12.00-12.30am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast

FM as LW except: **7.00-8.00** Open University: **7.00** Modern Art: Impressionist Exhibition **7.20** The Nature of *Wuthering Heights* **7.40** Language and the Novel **1.55-2.00** Programme News **4.00-6.00** Options: **4.00** Education Matters **4.30** The Waiting Game **5.00** A Long, Long Tale a-Winding **5.30** Buongiorno Italia!

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8, (London area FM-104.8.) **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. **Radio 4:** 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **Greater London Radio:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **World Service:** MW 648kHz/463m.

Mitterrand backs Poles over border

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

President Mitterrand of France last night said the resolution on the Polish frontier adopted by the West German parliament on Thursday was "insufficient" and urged Bonn to strengthen border guarantees.

"I think this declaration must be more specific," he said at a press conference. "This is not just any frontier. It is the Oder-Neisse line."

M Mitterrand confirmed that his government believes the Poles must be directly

Refugee crisis.....8

associated with the "two plus four" discussions on the future of an unified Germany where-ever their own borders are concerned.

Flanked by the Polish president, Mr Wojciech Jaruzelski, and the prime minister, Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki, a relaxed, sometimes jovial, M Mitterrand gave firm and unequivocal backing for Poland's position in the frontier dispute with Bonn.

He said France supported the Polish view that some form of "international judical act" was essential to guarantee the permanent status of the "sacrosanct" Oder-Neisse line before the anticipated unification of Germany.

"We are greatly satisfied with progress made during this extremely important visit," said Mr Jaruzelski. "this totally confirms our confidence in France," Mr Mazowiecki declared.

M Mitterrand took pains, however, to emphasize that France and West Germany remain the closest of friends and allies.

● East Berlin: The two Germanies yesterday took their first joint steps towards deciding the timetable and procedures for reunification with a meeting of officials and legal experts from both countries (Anne McElvoy writes).

The talks were intended to clear the way for the first conference of the Germanies and the Western allies – the so-called two plus four – to be held in Bonn next week.

The discussions were said to have taken place "in a constructive atmosphere" and are thought to have focused on recognition of the Oder-Neisse border and the question of whether it would be possible to unify the two states by a simple *anschluss* of East Germany by West Germany, as provided for in the West German constitution.

East Germany still disputes the legality of Article 23 of the Constitution which would be used to justify this method.

Herr Ernst Krabatsch, the deputy East German Foreign Minister, said that the two sides had agreed "absolute confidentiality".

£650 Spencer painting sells for £770,000

MICHAEL POWELL

Source of inspiration: Phil Johns, an artist, sketching the large triptych, shaped like the top of a cross, which set a new record for a painting by Spencer.

By John Shaw

An important visionary picture by Sir Stanley Spencer RA, bought by a young woman artist for £650 at the Royal Academy in 1950, was sold for £770,000 yesterday at a record-breaking sale of British pictures at Christie's.

Mary Corble, who knew Spencer at Cookham, on the Thames in Berkshire, sold her diamond brooch, a gift from her mother, to buy "Resurrection: Waking Up", a triptych 30in by 80in overall. It shows groups of people yawning and stretching beside their graves in a cemetery at Port Glasgow in 1945.

The picture passed to her daughter, Mrs Ann Neville, who lives in Kent. She, in turn,

Saleroom.....5

has given it to her six children who are to share the proceeds of its sale between them. The price is a record for Spencer and a big advance on £429,000, the previous best, which was paid two years ago.

The painting, shaped like the top of a cross, is typical of Spencer's intensely personal religious vision and part of the celebrated Port Glasgow series. It was bought by Bernard Jacobson, a London dealer, the under-bidder being Charles Leggatt of Leggatt Brothers.

A £61,600 record for a Spencer drawing, a nude self-portrait, was also set at the sale, which made £3,791,700 over the two days it lasted – a record for any modern British picture auction.

Mr Jacobson said afterwards that he bought the picture for an exhibition he intends staging next year.

Pressure mounting for debate on Fayeds

By Richard Ford
Political Correspondent

Ministers were under mounting pressure yesterday to hold a Commons debate on the controversy surrounding the Fayed brothers' takeover of Harrods.

A cross-party motion demanded a debate as Conservative MPs continued to voice strong criticism of Mr Nicholas Ridley's refusal to disqualify the Fayeds as directors of Harrods and the House of Fraser stores group.

As Conservative backbench MPs questioned how long Mr Ridley would remain in the Government, it was made clear that despite the furore over the findings of the DTI report Ministers considered the matter closed. Whitehall sources said that the

The Sultan of Brunei last night denied he was behind the takeover of Harrods by the Al Fayed brothers. In a press release the Sultan drew attention to a statement he made in July 1988 giving an "unequivocal assurance" he had no part in the £615 million House of Fraser purchase.

Leading article.....13

Government would not intervene now the decision had been taken. They dismissed as "rubbish" suggestions that the Prime Minister was distancing herself from Mr Ridley over a decision which has added to the Government's difficulties.

Mr Ridley took his decision not to disqualify the Fayeds from being directors of Harrods acting in a quasi judicial capacity. He made the decision and then reported it to the full Cabinet.

Three Conservative MPs, Dr Keith Hampson, Mr Robert McCrindle and Mr Robert Hicks, joined 18 Labour MPs in signing a Commons motion criticising as "inadequate" Mr Ridley's statement to the Commons on the 752-page report. The DTI inspectors report said the Fayed brothers "dishonestly misrepresented their origins, their wealth, their business interests and their resources" in the bitter £615 million battle with Lonrho for control of the House of Fraser.

Mr Ridley, who leaves today on a week-long visit to the Soviet Union and Poland, was criticised by senior members of the 1922 Conservative backbench committee at their weekly meeting on Thursday. The attacks continued yesterday with Mr Hicks, Conservative MP for Cornwall South East, saying that the nation would be dismayed to see people in big companies acting with big money getting away with this type of activity.

Last night Labour submitted 30 questions to Mr Ridley on the affair.

● Box shared: Buckingham Palace confirmed yesterday that the Queen will share a box at the Royal Windsor Horse Show on May 18 with Mr Mohamed Fayed, the chairman of Harrods.

A Palace spokesman said: "The Queen always has a house party at Windsor to coincide with the show, which has been sponsored by Harrods for several years. That will be the case again this year."

'Toytown' rebels attacked

Continued from page 1

The violence at Hackney, where a poll tax of £499 was set, drew many attacks from politicians yesterday and the Prime Minister, also visiting Scotland, said high poll taxes set by Labour councils were something to complain about but "the way to do it is in a very quiet, orderly manner."

The poll tax was a fairer system than rates and was now working "extremelly well" in Scotland where it was introduced last year.

Speaking at Dunoon Mr Kinnock's attack, which did not spare the Government for attempting to profit from the extremists' activities, won a rare standing ovation. Seeking to stem the Conservatives' exploitation of the role played by Militant Tendency in the town hall protests, the Labour leader said: "The Tories feign outrage. They are actually overjoyed.

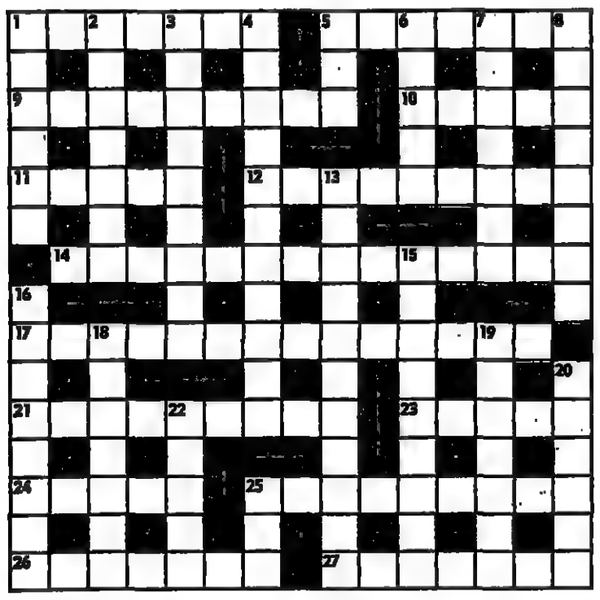
"They are living in hope that their guilt for introducing the poll tax might somehow be obscured by the uproar round the town halls.

"But as ever the fringe extremists on the ultra left are giving limitless support to the extremists in the Cabinet on the right and both are joined in unholy alliance against everybody else. They feed off each other. There could be no excuse for the cynicism of extremist right and left wingers."

While he has sympathy for those who cannot to pay, the Labour leader said: "They do not deserve to be exploited by toytown revolutionaries who pretend that the tax can be stopped and the Government toppled simply by non-payment."

Mr Pat Stack, a spokesman for the Socialist Workers Party, was pressed repeatedly on BBC radio to dissociate his members from violence but restricted himself to condemning "the violence the poll tax inflicts upon people's lives".

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,238



ACROSS

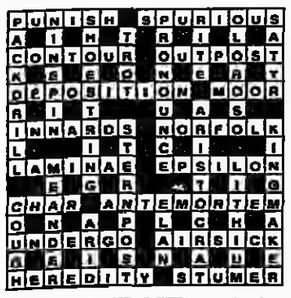
1 Slash rank when caught in small offence (7).
5 Occasional worker takes time to paint (7).
9 Ritual post to the archbishop is empty (5-4).
10 Vigorous little general is shown round the corps (5).
11 Old county captain (5).
12 European gets loaf and comes round for tea (5,4).
14 The farce's words caused trouble – it's set in the bedroom (5,2,7).
17 Letters that show similarity (14).
21 Part of town that's unfashionable; don't pass through, son (9).
23 See in him a good example of perfection (5).
24 Femininity personified, but the creature is finally skint (5).
25 Square cape (9).
26 Saxon ruler found in booth (7).
27 Bird – the odds are against one flying straight (7).

Concise crossword, page 50

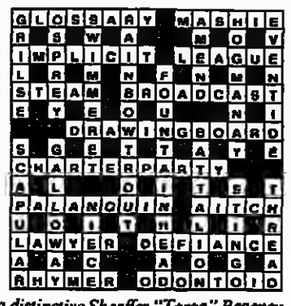
DOWN

1 Gas and benzene finally swell and ignite (3,3).
2 Baltic salad drunkenly called for (7).
3 Missed tea, settled for a small coffee (9).
4 Reveals hat, a sensation (4-7).
5 A fixture? I'd say not (3).
6 Comics, including posh *Wizard* (5).
7 Looks on foreign money as something hideous (7).
8 Tacitus was a deep thinker, we're told (8).
13 Islanders one's met among people from the subcontinent (11).
15 States things in camera when ordered; take note (9).
16 Palm a high card: officer and boy are taken in (8).
18 I learnt to dance the sailor's step (7).
19 The Bellman's mistake? (7).
20 Take out chronicler of gypsy life (6).
22 Snake – it was found under vessel when picked up (5).
25 One at sea in desert rising (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,232



Solution to Puzzle No 18,237



The winners of last Saturday's competition are: A R K Mackenzie, Rowardennan, Glasgow; V M Wilson, Hazelmount Drive, Warton Carnforth, Lancashire; W G Nunn, Kingsway, Petts Wood, Kent; M Dowling, Trinity Road, London SW18; H J Preddy, Shepherds Bush Road, Hammersmith, London W6.

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

ANLACE
a. Heavy Bruges lace
b. A dagger
c. To entice voluptuously

BARBER'S CAT
a. A large comb
b. An instrument of torture
c. A thin, weedy person

KILLOCK
a. An anchor
b. A Highland pony
c. A chastity belt

KITCHENALIA
a. Kitchen antiques
b. Ailment known as chef's wrist
c. A scarlet rhododendron

Answers on page 16

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London.....701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex.....702
Dorset,Hants & IOW.....703
Devon & Cornwall.....704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms.....705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon.....706
Beds,Herts & Essex.....707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs.....708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent.709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs.....710
Central Midlands.....711
East Midlands.....712
Lincs & Humberside.....713
Dyfed & Powys.....714
Gwynedd & Clwyd.....715
N W England.....716
W & S Yorks & Dales.....717
N E England.....718
Cumbria & Lake District.....719
S W Scotland.....720
W Central Scotland.....721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders..722
E Central Scotland.....723
Grampian & E Highlands.....724
N W Scotland.....725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland...726
N Ireland.....727

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks
G. London (within N & S Circs.).731
M-ways/roads M4-M1.....732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. ..733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 734
M-ways/roads M23- M4.....735
M25 London Orbital only.....736

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways.....737
West Country.....738
Wales.....739
Midlands.....740
East Anglia.....741
North-west England.....742
North-east England.....743
Scotland.....744
Northern Ireland.....745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

WEATHER

Rain over eastern areas of England will soon clear, leaving England and Wales with a mostly dry day. Brighter intervals expected to develop in the East where it will be very mild. Northern Ireland and north-western England will have some rain. The heaviest and most persistent rain is expected over Scotland, especially in the west. Outlook: Rain at times in the North; mainly dry and mild in the South.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	c	Majorca	17	63	f
Akrotiri	20	68	s	Malaga	16	61	c
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Malta	15	59	c
Algiers	16	61	c	Melb'rne	21	70	f
Amst'dm	8	46	c	Mexico C*	-	-	-
Athens	18	64	s	Miami*	21	70	r
Barcelona	16	61	c	Moscow	5	41	c
Belgrade	19	66	c	Munich	15	59	s
Berlin	4	39	r	Nairobi	26	79	f
Bordeaux	15	59	c	N York*	3	37	s
Brussels	10	50	s	Nice	14	57	c
Budapest	18	64	s	Oslo	4	39	c
B Aires*	26	79	s	Paris	12	54	s
Cairo	20	68	f	Peking	14	57	s
Cape Tn	23	73	c	Perth	27	81	s
Corfu	16	61	s	Rome	13	55	r
Dublin	8	46	f	Salzburg	12	54	c
Dubrovnik	15	59	f	S Frisco*	11	52	s
Funchal	18	64	f	Sing'por	25	77	t
Geneva	13	55	f	St'kholm	6	43	c
Gibraltar	16	61	c	Strasb'rg	14	57	f
Helsinki	1	34	sn	Sydney	27	81	s
Hong K	19	66	c	Tangier	17	63	c
Jeddah	28	82	f	Tokyo	14	57	s
Jo'burg*	22	72	f	Toronto*	1	34	s
Karachi	28	82	s	Tunis	20	68	c
Lisbon	16	61	s	Venice	9	48	c
Locarno	11	52	s	Vienna	17	63	c
L Angels*	13	55	c	Warsaw	14	57	s
Luxembg	9	48	f	Wash'ton*	7	45	s
Luxor	27	81	s	Wel'ngton	21	70	r
Madrid	16	61	s	Zurich	12	54	f

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	2.8	-	13	55	bright
Hunstanton	4.7	-	11	52	sunny
Lowestoft	5.7	-	12	54	sunny
Southend	6.2	-	13	55	sunny
Folkestone	6.8	-	11	52	sunny
Hastings	7.2	-	12	54	sunny
Bournemouth	0.1	-	12	54	cloudy
Weymouth	5.6	-	13	55	sunny
Teignmouth	6.2	-	13	55	sunny
Falmouth	5.0	-	12	54	bright
Blackpool	0.2	.01	9	48	rain
Morecambe	1.6	-	9	48	rain
Douglas	-	.03	9	48	rain
Birmingham	6.0	-	12	54	sunny
Bristol	6.3	-	11	52	sunny
Buxton	2.0	-	9	48	bright
Leeds	1.7	-	12	54	cloudy
Manchester	1.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Newcastle	1.0	.01	11	52	cloudy
Nottingham	3.3	-	11	52	bright
Anglesey	-	-	9	48	dull
Colwyn Bay	1.2	-	11	52	bright
Tenby	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Aberdeen	-	.02	8	46	rain
Aviemore	0.1	.14	6	43	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	.51	7	45	rain
Glasgow	-	.26	8	46	rain
Kinloss	0.6	.02	8	46	rain
Prestwick	-	.34	9	48	rain
Stornoway	0.3	.11	6	43	sleet
Tiree	0.6	.34	6	43	shower
Belfast	-	.41	9	48	rain

Thursday's figures

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	7	45f	Guernsey	11	52f
B'mgham	9	48f	Inverness	0	32sn
Blackpool	7	45c	Jersey	12	54f
Bristol	9	48f	London	11	52f
Cardiff	10	50f	M'nchester	7	45f
Edinburgh	5	41f	Newcastle	6	43f
Glasgow	4	39c	N'ndsway	7	45c

LIGHTING-UP TIME

TODAY
London 5.56 pm to 6.25 am
Bristol 6.06 pm to 6.34 am
Edinburgh 6.05 pm to 6.40 am
Manchester 6.03 pm to 6.34 am
Penzance 6.19 pm to 6.45 am

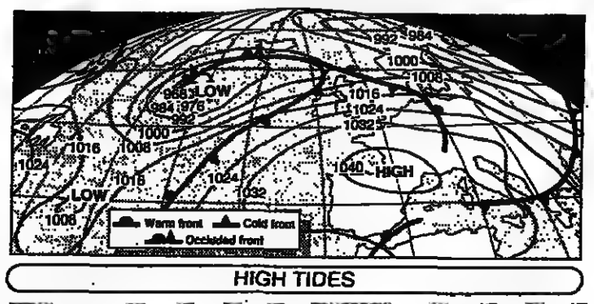
LONDON

Thursday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 15C (59F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 07C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 61 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 7.0 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,014.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, northern Scotland, 05C (41F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway, 0.51 in; highest sunshine: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 9.4 hr.

NOON TODAY



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.05	6.7	1.31	7.1	London Bridge	1.47	7.0	2.12	7.2
Aberdeen	12.42	3.9	12.45	4.1	Aberdeen	1.17	4.0	1.19	4.3
Avonmouth	6.36	12.5	7.00	12.7	Avonmouth	7.16	12.9	7.37	13.0
Belfast	10.24	3.6	11.06	3.2	Belfast	11.04	3.5	11.36	3.2
Cardiff	6.21	11.6	6.45	11.8	Cardiff	7.01	11.1	7.22	12.1
Devonport	5.17	5.3	5.43	5.2	Devonport	5.56	5.5	6.18	5.3
Dover	10.40	6.2	10.52	6.4	Dover	11.13	6.3	11.26	6.6
Holyhead	9.45	5.4	10.07	5.3	Holyhead	10.19	5.6	10.38	5.3
Hull	5.50	6.9	5.51	7.3	Hull	6.24	7.0	6.25	7.5
Liverpool	10.42	9.1	11.04	9.0	Liverpool	11.19	9.3	11.37	9.2
Lowestoft	9.11	2.2	8.56	2.4	Lowestoft	9.43	2.2	9.33	2.5
Margate	11.53	4.5	11.58	4.5	Margate	—	—	12.26	4.5
Milford Haven	5.34	6.7	5.57	6.7	Milford Haven	6.12	6.8	6.32	6.6
Penzance	4.15	5.4	4.39	5.3	Penzance	4.51	5.6	5.14	5.4

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.
Times are GMT

TODAY			TOMORROW		
Sun rises: 6.27 am	Sun sets: 5.56 pm		Sun rises: 6.25 am	Sun sets: 5.58 pm	
Moon sets: 5.56 am	Moon rises: 5.10 pm		Moon sets: 6.08 am	Moon rises: 6.23 pm	
Full Moon tomorrow			Full Moon 10.58am		

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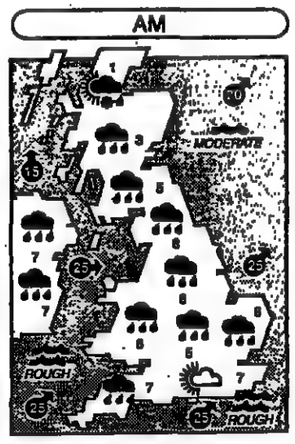
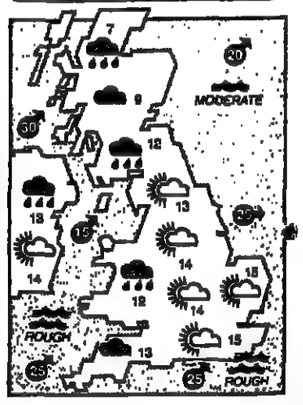
AM



PM



Information supplied by Met Office

THE TIMES

MONEY

SECTION 2

SATURDAY MARCH 10 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6185 (–0.0250)

W German mark
2.7588 (–0.0352)

Exchange index
86.6 (–1.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1763.8 (–10.6)

FT-SE 100
2234.3 (–15.7)

USM (Datastream)
145.72 (–1.33)

Market report, page 23

Technology misses deadline

First Technology, the security and safety systems group, has barred itself for three months from any hostile bid for Ricardo Group, the engine designer, after the expiry last night of a deadline imposed by the Takeover Panel.

First Technology was given until 4pm to state the terms of any unilateral offer it might make for Ricardo, whose merger with SAC International it is opposing. The merger will be considered on Monday.

First Technology has said it wants an agreed deal only, and has suggested an all-share offer at 180p for Ricardo, but this has been rejected in favour of the merger.

Polymark sells

Polymark International, the laundry equipment group, is to sell its 90 per cent stake in Polymark France to its management, subject to shareholder approval, for Fr66 million (£6.9 million) in cash.

STOCK MARKETS

New York:	
Dow Jones	2666.29 (–7.86)*
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	33993.12 (+302.23)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2912.67 (–3.06)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	111.9 (+0.4)
Sydney: AO	1579.2 (+8.7)
Frankfurt: DAX	1858.74 (–2.18)
Brussels:	
General	5040.50 (+76.03)
Paris: CAC	520.70 (+11.20)
Zurich: SKA Gen	608.4 (–2.7)
London:	
FT–A All-Share	n/a
FT–"500"	n/a
FT. Gold Mines	275.8 (–7.7)
FT. Fixed Interest	87.18 (–0.01)
FT. Govt Secs	76.98 (–0.81)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Authority Inv	77½p (+10p)
News Corp	512½p (+23p)
Pressac	72½p (+10p)
Glaxo	712p (+12p)
Priest Marians	317½p (+15p)
Eurotunnel Units	577½p (+10p)
FALLS:	
UK Land	435p (–10p)
Rush & Tompkins	160p (–10p)
Kleen-E-Ze	165½p (–12p)
Hardanger	635p (–10p)
McInerney	100p (–13p)
Enterprise	599p (–17p)
Cable & Wireless	518½p (–14p)
First Technology	472½p (–12p)
Church	365p (–10p)
Rentokil	349p (–15p)
Conder Group	845p (–15p)
S G Warburg	447½p (–10p)
DAKS Simpson 'A'	448p (–10p)
Liberty	435p (–10p)
4pm prices	
Bargains	30182
SEAQ Volume	546.8m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15⅞-15¾%
3-month eligible bills: 14 11/16-14⅝%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8¼%*
3-month Treasury Bills 7.97-7.95%*
30-year bonds 98⅝-98 25/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.6185	£: $1.6185*
£: DM2.7588	$: DM1.7048*
£: SwFr2.4484	$: SwFr1.5117*
£: FFr9.3161	$: FFr5.7615*
£: Yen244.96	$: Yen151.33*
£: Index:86.6	$: Index:68.3
ECU £0.737600	SDR £0.793231
£: ECU1.355748	£: SDR1.260666

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $399.70 pm-$399.30
close $399.00-399.50 (£246.50-247.00)
New York:
Comex $398.90-399.40*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr) $18.95bbl ($18.80)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.25	2.10
Austria Sch	20.30	19.00
Belgium Fr	60.30	56.40
Canada $	1.885	1.885
Denmark Kr	11.00	10.40
Finland Mkk	6.82	6.42
France Fr	9.72	9.12
Germany Dm	2.895	2.715
Greece Dr	284	258
Hong Kong $	13.30	12.40
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.02
Italy Lira	2140	2010
Japan Yen	260	244
Netherlands Gld	3.23	3.06
Norway Kr	11.15	10.50
Portugal Esc	256	240
South Africa Rd	4.60	4.20
Spain Pta	183.50	171.50
Sweden Kr	10.58	9.90
Switzerland Fr	2.545	2.385
Turkey Lira	4400	3800
USA $	1.705	1.605
Yugoslavia Dnr	refer	refer

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 119.5 (January)

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Small investors may save with paperless shares

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

New systems for speculating on credit are likely to develop on the Stock Exchange after reforms are brought in from autumn next year aimed at speeding settlements of share deals and eliminating paperwork and share certificates to cut costs.

The changes involve abolishing the traditional fortnightly account, in which all deals done during the two-week period are settled at the end on a single settlement day. Speculators in London have used the system to buy and sell within the account, so that they have not had to pay and have saved on duty and commission. In the old jargon, they could also buy "for new time" at the end of one account or "contango" a deal from one account to the next.

All this will go after the International Stock Exchange phases in its long-planned Taurus computerized, paperless trading system from October 1991. In the new jargon, "dematerialization" should be completed by the end of 1993.

The fortnightly accounts will end by October 1992. Thereafter, the Exchange intends bargains to be settled within five days of being struck, with the eventual target of a three-day rolling settlement system.

Mr Hugh Smith, ISE chairman, estimated that the securities industry could save between £225 million and £255 million over a 10-year period from the change, mainly on brokers' back-office costs. He said individual investors should share in the savings if they used execution-only share dealing services, but he could not say whether this would be the case for the majority of private investors who also used advice or portfolio-management services from brokers.

Mr Hugh Smith did not expect Taurus to reduce speculation. He expected speculators to buy "on margin" as they do in other markets, such as Tokyo and New York.

Under this system brokers may allow short-term speculators to put up only a proportion (the "margin") of the purchase price of shares, which are held as security against loans to pay the rest. More money has to be put up, or losses taken, if the shares fall by more than the margin. The development costs of Taurus are estimated at up to £50 million over the four years to March 1993 and annual running costs at between £30 million and £35 million, which is less than exisiting systems. Allowing for interest on the development costs, Mr Hugh Smith said ISE member firms and other users should make real cost savings.

The ISE plans to run Taurus as a service on a break-even basis. But Mr Peter Rawlins, chief executive, said that this could bring problems if other user groups — such as registrars — who have been invited to participate in owning the system, wanted a commercial return.

When share certificates are abolished, Mr Rawlins said that private shareholders would have acknowledgement of ownership through an account with their broker or bank. But small investors could also use alternative arrangements organized by the company in which they owned shares.

Mr Hugh Smith said it was not true that private investors valued share certificates highly. They found the present torrent of paperwork a major disincentive to investment.

Falling pound adds to Budget gloom

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The pound fell again sharply in foreign exchange markets yesterday darkening the economic background to Mr John Major's first Budget on Tuesday week.

By the close of dealing in London, sterling had fallen by 1.1 on the Bank of England's effective rate index to 86.6 despite aggressive intervention by the Bank.

City traders said for the most part that they did not expect interest rates to rise but that the fall in the currency made any prospect of a cut in rates more distant than ever.

In the money markets the bellwether three-month interbank rate edged up by 1/16 percentage point to 15 9/16 per cent — decisively above 15 per cent base rates but not yet indicating a rise.

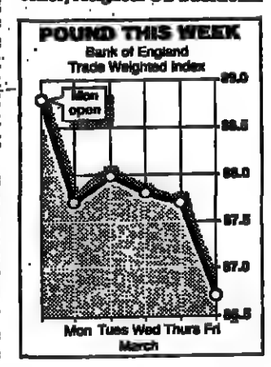
Gilt-edged stcoks had another uncomfortable day in the stock market with prices falling 1½ points indicating continuing concern about the trend in inflation. Gilts have now fallen 3 points in a week and 6½ points in the past month putting yeilds above 12 per cent. The equity market was less badly affected closing down 15.7 at 2,234.13.

The reason for sterling's continued fall was again largely political. News of revolts against the poll tax and speculation that the Prime Minister's position was under threat in the cabinet prompted heavy selling from the Far East overnight. Traders were also worried about the probability of higher rates elsewhere in Japan and possibly also in Germany which would be likely to narrow the differential between British rates and those overseas.

Mr Stephen Hannah, of NatWest Capital Markets, the securities group, said: "I don't think there is any appetite in the UK for higher interest rates, so sterling will have to take the strain."

The Bank of England was reported to have intervened aggressively to support the currency, but it continued to fall during the morning against both the dollar and other currencies. By late after noon it was down 2.70 cents against the dollar to $1.6165 and 3.95 pfennigs against the mark at DM2.7545.

Sterling has now fallen by 4 per cent in a fortnight after briefly climbing back to the level it was at when Mr Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor, resigned. On traditional rules of thumb this could, if sustained, add 1 per cent to inflation.



The pound's position was not helped by a rise in the dollar during the afternoon after the announcement of a sharp rise in US employment. Non-farm payroll jobs jumped by 372,000 last month, the biggest monthly rise since June 1988. Unemployment remained at 5.3 per cent. Carworkers re-engaged after lay-offs in January helped to swell the figure. The increase in January was revised upwards to 332,000. Wall Street economists were forecasting a 234,000 rise last month.

Traders concluded that the US economy might be stronger than had been thought and that interest rates were less likely to fall because of the potential effect on inflation. That helped the dollar.

The City view is that in spite of the pressure on the pound the Chancellor is unlikely to put up interest rates when the weakness stems from political factors rather than economic fundamentals.

Pictures of demonstrations outside town halls were thought to have been misinterpreted by some holders of sterling in Tokyo as indicating an East European scale of discontent.

In similar circumstances before Christmas when the pressure on the pound was judged by the Government to be temporary in the wake of Mr Lawson's resignation, the Bank also limited its action to intervention in markets.

Drexel — after the axe has fallen

NICK GOLDFINGER

Deserted: Tim Hayward, left, and Phil Wallace, joint administrators, in Drexel's empty commodity trading room yesterday

The administrators winding down Drexel Burnham Lambert Holdings, the British arm of the collapsed US securities house, are sacking another 40 employees next week (Neil Bennett writes).

This will leave the firm with less than a quarter of its original workforce and follows the liquidation of most of its $140 million commodity portfolio.

KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountants, also revealed it has so far been unable to recover any of the $100 million owed the British companies by their US parent.

Even so, it has built up a $50 million cash fund to pay unsecured creditors. These include most of Drexel's 377 staff who will get no redundancy pay until the company is wound up.

Mr Tim Hayward, a joint administrator, blamed Drexel's insolvency in Britain on the US company's decision to file for bankruptcy protection. "I do not believe it was the actions of the UK companies that caused this," he said.

Since the Drexel companies went into administration three weeks ago, it has unwound almost all its trading positions and sold $50 million of a $90 million Eurobond portfolio.

Negotiations are under way to sell Drexel's remaining assets, its metal option contracts and a £13 million stake in First Britannia, a mezzanine fund. Almost all the secured creditors have been repaid.

The redundancies will leave the commodities and Eurobond operations of Drexel left with only 60 settlements staff to collect debts from clients. The foreign exchange trading subsidiary, which is not in liquidation, has another 20 employees, and should go into voluntary liquidation once it has closed all its positions.

Reckitt & Colman agrees $1.2bn buy

By Colin Campbell

Reckitt & Colman has agreed in principle to buy Boyle-Midway of New York, the household products division of American Home Products Corporation for $1.25 billion.

The deal — R&C's largest — will be funded via $1.7 billion of banking facilities and a £200 million rights issue of convertible capital bonds.

Approval is needed from US regulatory authorities and R&C shareholders. The buy will bring several household names, including 3-in-One lubricating oil, Easy-On laundry aids, Woolite carpet cleaners and Wizard air fresheners.

R&C will add at least £450 million to its balance sheet because of the acquired trademarks. Boyle-Midway had net assets at December 31 of $171 million and trading profits of $91 million, on sales of $667 million. R&C will be buying it on a price earnings ratio of 22.

There is likely to be a modest earnings dilution in the first year — possibly less than 5 per cent — though the deal should be earnings positive from year two. The net effect on gearing should be to see net borrowings at between £400 million and £450 million by 1990 balance sheet date, for a gearing of 55 per cent. This should fall because of R&C's organic growth and disposals.

Standard & Poor's, the US credit agency, said it may downgrade R&C paper because of the deal.

The rights bond issue will be subscribed for in two tranches — 25p payable on April 2, the balance on September 21 — in case the deal fails.

R&C made pre-tax profits of £217.4 million (£191.3 million), on sales of £1.57 billion (£1.39 billion) in 1989. A final dividend of 19.1p (16.35p), payable July 5, makes 29.75p (25.5p) for the year. The shares fell 14p to £11.15.

Sunley sues Fayed and ex-directors

By Angela Mackay

Bernard Sunley & Sons, the construction company half-owned by Lonrho, is suing two former directors and Mr Mohamed Fayed for £40 million alleging fraud and breach of duty relating to commissions and assurances.

Writs were issued last year against Mr Fayed, head of the House of Fraser retail chain, and Mr John Sunley and the late Mr John Fryer, respectively former chairman and former managing director of Bernard Sunley.

On Wednesday, the management, led by Mr Nigel Linstead, quickly dissociated themselves from the Department of Trade and Industry report on the Fayed brothers' takeover of House of Fraser in 1985. Mr Fryer was interviewed by the DTI inspectors, but Mr Sunley refused to be.

None of the other Sunley directors knew that Mr Fryer and Mr Sunley vouched for the Fayeds before, during and after the takeover by saying that they were leading businessmen in the Gulf, nor that commission was being paid. The DTI report will be used in Bernard Sunley's case.

Mr Fryer told the inspectors that Bernard Sunley had paid Mr Mohamed Fayed about £40 million in commission for his part in winning it contracts worth £400 million in Dubai.

Sources close to Sunley, however, said that Mr Fayed had been paid only about £22.5 million, but that since £40 million was the amount attested to in evidence this is the amount to be sought.

Mr Fryer told inspectors that Mr Fayed had "considerable" influence in gaining contracts. The DTI concluded that Mr Fayed had greatly exaggerated his role to Sunley, but saved "legwork".

Lonrho bought 50 per cent of Sunley last year.

Group admits bid talks after chairman resigns

Margulies quits troubled Berisford

By John Bell, City Editor

Berisford International, the troubled food and property group, is in talks which may lead to a takeover bid. The group said last night that Mr Ephraim Margulies, the chairman and architect of the group's early success, had resigned with immediate effect.

Berisford shares soared on news of the possible bid. They rose from 115p yesterday morning to 149p in hectic trading, putting a market value of £713 million on the group. More than 5 million shares were traded by the close of business. The prize asset of the group is Berisford Bristar, its sugar manufacturing division, which contributed profits of £112 million last year, almost 60 per cent of the group's total.

Berisford may become the subject of a protracted bid battle between several powerful shareholders. ABF, the flour to sliced bread group, is Berisford's largest shareholder with 23 per cent. ABF has been bitterly critical of Berisford's recent performance, especially its disastrous involvement in New York property which cost £55 million in provisions last year. ABF and various dissatisfied institutional investors have been pressing for the departure of Mr Margulies after a fraught annual shareholders' meeting on Tuesday.

The US Pritzker family owns 11 per cent, which they bought in support of Mr Margulies. Mr Larry Goodman, the Irish entrepreneur owns another 11 per cent, but is regarded as no more than a dark-horse candidate for a bid. The Hillsdown group is also ranked as a possible buyer.

Mr John Sclater, a non-executive member of the Berisford board is to take over as non-exective chairman. He is a director of Foreign & Colonial.

Mr Margulies, aged 65, bowed out of 11 years of day-to-day involvement at Berisford in December to be replaced as chief executive by Mr Peter Jacobs, the former Mars director.

Marg, as he was known in the City, reversed his commodity trading business into the Berisford group in 1970. Mr Margulies is the son of a Rabbi and lives in Stamford Hill, North London. He sprang to prominence as the Guinness affair broke, repaying almost immediately £1.5 million of money received from Guinness around the time of the takeover of Distillers. He strenuously denied any wrongdoing.

THE NOMURA WARRANT FUND

MORE OF THE REWARDS

FOLLOWING the recent adverse movements in the Japanese Warrants market, certain investors believe that this period may prove to be a rare investment opportunity. Others, however, are understandably reluctant to enter a market which, due to its highly geared nature, is also highly risky.

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THIS IS because it offers a diversified exposure for a considerably smaller outlay than direct investment in the market.

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BUT WITH the unrivalled knowledge and expertise of Nomura, it is now one in which investors can begin to think more about the rewards.

THE NOMURA WARRANT FUND 1990 LIMITED

LESS OF THE RISKS

Offer closes 16th March 1990. Nomura International Plc, a member of The Securities Association, is promoting this note (and receives fees for this). This advertisement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy. Private investors should consult their independent financial advisors. The value of investments can go down as well as up.

Indosuez pays £12.3m to Gartmore managers

By Neil Bennett

The top 63 managers at Gartmore are being paid £12.3 million for their executive share options by Banque Indosuez, as part of its £140 million acquisition of the fund manager. The French bank is also offering them new options in its global asset management company.

The acquisition was delayed last week while the managers agreed to the new option package. The options cost £4.2 million to exercise, producing an average profit of £129,000 for each executive.

Indosuez has insisted on buying 100 per cent of Gartmore's shares and moving it into a new holding company, Gartmore-Indosuez Asset Management. The managers of this will be issued options over up to 15 per cent of the company.

The heavily-leaked acquisition gives Indosuez the asset management presence in the City it badly wanted.

Last November the bank was beaten by Deutsche Bank in its bid for Morgan Grenfell, and has since negotiated to buy at least one other fund manager.

Apart from Gartmore, Indosuez is buying British & Commonwealth's 29.9 per cent stake in London & Strathclyde Trust for £14.8 million. The bank said it may now look at ways of spreading the investment among "its friends."

Gartmore comes with assets of £6.7 billion under management, which will increase Indosuez's global portfolio to more than £14.5 billion.

Gartmore has a reputation for indifferent investment performance.

M Bernard Simon-Barboux, Indosuez's executive vice-president, said, however, the bank was happy with the growth of the company's £4.5 billion pension fund, and that recent appointments to the unit trust side would improve its returns.

He said the group will also consider selling Gartmore products through a sales force rather than independent brokers.

For B&C the deal is part of an on-going asset disposal programme to reduce debts. Gartmore made pre-tax profits of £6.2 million in the year to December, and the sale will increase B&C's earnings. At 2.1 per cent of managed assets, the price is in line with recent deals in the fund management sector.

To help fund the deal, Compagnie Financière de Suez, the bank's parent, has agreed to inject Fr750 million (£79 million) this year.

Indosuez already manages $12.8 billion in Asia and the United States through various subsidiaries.

M Simon-Barboux said the bank had already identified up to £3 million in annual savings by combining some of the overseas businesses.

Farewell to the oil chief who rescued BP from the depths

KENNETH FLEET

Sir Peter Walters ceases to be chairman of BP tomorrow, his 59th birthday. He has good cause to celebrate. Peter Walters joined BP from Birmingham University in 1954, became a managing director in 1973, and was made chairman in 1981. Up to that time BP was run like the Foreign Office, though not as efficiently.

The company had been shaken by the nationalization of its Iranian assets and had gone through its first cycle of change.

The imperial manner was less imperious and there were fewer proconsular figures about the place.

The management culture, however, was still grounded in the 1950s and the company was in poor shape. It was losing its way in oil exploration and production and making losses in shipping, coal and minerals. In their wisdom the board made Walters chairman — the first man in that office who knew anything about oil.

He leaves BP tomorrow an infinitely better company, run by a team of managers arguably as good as in any large company anywhere in the world.

Walters replaced the concept of the integrated oil company, which covered a multitude of sins, with an insistence that each core business had to be profitable.

Linear planning gave way to the bottom line. Core businesses were redefined — they had to have a strategic advantage to remain part of the group. Those assets which were peripheral were sold.

Walters' second major achievement was to resolve the Standard Oil of Ohio problem. BP had acquired 55 per cent of Sohio in 1969 as a way of capitalizing on Alaskan oil reserves. Between 1981 and 1985 the American management, having barricaded itself in against Limey intrusion, succeeded in losing a cool $6 billion.

In 1986 Walters took the eagle by its wings, sacked the management and sent Robert Horton, who from Monday officially sits in Walters' chair, to establish BP's freedom to manage the company it owned. In the end, with Horton and Walters negotiating at arms length, both sides got a good deal.

Walters' third success was getting the British government out of BP. The manner of HMG's going — caught up in the 1987 stock market collapse, controversy and angry recrimination — was not the one he would have chosen, but the Gordian knot between government and company, originally tied by Winston Churchill, was severed.

Peter Walters is a modest, almost shy man. His public profile is in keeping with his reticent nature. He is not weak; quite the contrary, as his Herculean feats in the last nine years prove. But he would not dream, for example, of saying, like his successor, "I have a national role to play. There are things that the chairman of BP can do and say." The next chapter in the BP story will be different from the one that ends tomorrow.

Walters will become non-executive chairman of Blue Circle Industries in June. He is also a director of Thorn EMI and SmithKline Beecham. What he ought to have been, of course, is chairman of National Westminster Bank, a position denied him by a gang of non-executive directors and some misguided senior managers.

Some say he was naive to tell the board in advance that he would reduce its size in order to make it more effective. That is his style — to be open in what he intends to do, and then to do it.

He is totally vindicated in the Department of Trade inspectors' report into the County NatWest/Phillips & Drew (Blue Arrow) affair and in the board chopping by Lord Alexander who eventually got the job. In this distinguished barrister NatWest has a chairman of many parts, but the part that is missing is the one Walters has to the power of 10 — commercial experience and remarkable success in directing a big company. None who knows him would refuse to raise a glass to him tomorrow.

Parrish is 'studying proposals'

Shares in Parrish, the ill-starred private client broker, rose 3p to 28p on the announcement that it had received a number of proposals which could lead to a bid or a cash injection.

Last July, Parrish said that talks about an equity injection had been frustrated by a 15 per cent stake held by Spedley, the Australian bank, sold by Spedley's liquidators to City & Westminster.

Parrish made yesterday's announcement following Press reports. It added that the proposals were being considered by the board with its advisers and a further announcement would be made as soon as possible.

Riva drops

News that Riva, the USM electronic cash register maker, will suffer £12 million-worth of reorganization costs at a Swedish subsidiary and the board's worries about Elders IXL's intentions for its 30 per cent holding pushed the shares 23p lower to 55p.

Psion up 21%

The Psion portable computers group increased pre-tax profits 21 per cent to £3.34 million on sales 64 per cent up at £31.4 million in 1989. The total dividend is 2.4p (1.2p) on virtually static earnings per share of 10.3p.

Scantronic buy

Scantronic has acquired Arrowhead Technologies, a California security alarm business, from Cerberus Technologies for about $5.5 million in cash.

Cognac sales up

Cognac brandy sales rose 5.6 per cent to 177 million bottles last year, with Britain the third largest export market after the US and Japan.

Gaelic 'rights'

Gaelic Resources is raising Ir£1.5 million (£1.43 million) by a one-for-five rights issue at 10p a share to help fund exploration in Turkey.

Perry profits reverse to £5m

DES JENSON

Decline in fortunes at Perry: (from left) Robert Kempton, special car operations director, Richard Allan, chairman and chief executive, and Martin Lane, finance director

The rise in interest rates and the squeeze on consumer spending clipped pre-tax profits at Perry Group, the motor dealer, back to £5.03 million from £8.35 million in the year to end-December. But the total dividend is held at 9p, with a final payment of 6.25p (Martin Waller writes).

Turnover was ahead from £304 million to £343 million.

Mr Richard Allan, chairman and chief executive, said the reduction in profits had three main causes and had been signalled at the time of the interim profits. On the stock market the shares slipped back 6p to 159p.

The figures were affected by the downturn in retail markets and consequent reduction in margins. Also, interest charges increased 53 per cent to £3.71 million despite only a slight rise in the company's debts and there was a £630,000 provision for pension contributions after changes in pension law.

"The figures reflect fairly accurately the decline in the fortunes of the motor trade in the last four months of 1989," said Mr Allan.

Although January and February had shown a marked improvement over those months, particularly in the used-car market, the outlook for the company remained uncertain, he said. "It is difficult to predict whether the recent increases in mortgage rates will further influence potential new and used car buyers.

"We had been looking for some reduction in interest rates to stimulate retail demand, but this now appears unlikely in 1990."

Another complicating factor was the strike at Ford, which had cut that manufacturer's market share to below 25 per cent because of lost production.

But the downturn meant there might be opportunities for acquisitions towards the end of the year, he added.

Brewing the second time around

Companies tend to run in cycles, and often in circles too. Each cycle usually starts when a new man with ambition and a business plan climbs into the saddle. The latest example is Allen Sheppard, chairman of Grand Metropolitan.

Nineteen years ago Sir Max Joseph, his predecessor but one and creator of the company, shocked the brewing establishment by taking over Truman. A year later he pulverized the beerage by taking out Watney Mann.

It was, you might say, a watershed for the industry. Sheppard has agreed to sell both, plus Ruddles and Websters, to Elders IXL, the Australian group. Another watershed.

Sheppard's vision of GrandMet as a four-part operation — food, drink, retailing and property — is about to be made real and the Sheppard cycle is underway. Simultaneously, he and John "Fostering the World" Elliott, head of Elders, like Max Joseph before them, are driving the industry toward important rationalization.

Under the Sheppard-Elliott swap deal Elders, which owns Courage, becomes a close second to Bass in the brewing league (fourth in the world league). Inntrepreneur Estates, which GrandMet and Courage will jointly own, will initially own 8,500 Courage and GrandMet public houses. Last year's Monopolies and Mergers Commission report, by limiting the size of the tied estate to a maximum of 2,000 public houses, presented the main brewers with a choice: to concentrate on brewing beer or concentrate on retailing it.

Elders and GrandMet have made their choice. So too has Whitbread. With the maximum number of tied houses raised to 2,000 plus half the remainder, Whitbread can comfortably ride both horses, which by temperament and tradition it prefers to do.

Bass, with 23 per cent of brewing and 6,685 public houses (2,405 managed) is still making up its mind, and Allied-Lyons, Richard Martin, group chief executive, told me, is "considering the future. We have contingency plans and we will resolve the position this year."

The intriguing question for him is the response of the Office of Fair Trading to the GrandMet-Elders' mega deal. Martin foresees "a limited number of players in five years" — perhaps only three major wholesale brewers. That prospect ought to exercise the OFT's mind. If the deal is not scrutinized by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission would that not also imply, Martin wonders, "that a company not a brewer can be as big a retailer of beer as it wants to be. That is still to be tested."

Last year's MMC recommendations were designed to give added protection to local and regional brewers. Even at the time they appeared to do the opposite.

Now the smaller fry are being threatened with tougher competition from bigger, leaner and thirstier giants. The ale brewers see themselves being taken out. Without waiting for fate Boddington has already sold its brewing business to Whitbread. Martin points out that the economies of scale are returning to brewing, especially for heavily advertised lagers.

Allied-Lyons, buffeted by bids (real and rumoured) and blessed by two outstanding bids of its own (J Lyons and Hiram Walker), has a much firmer presence, more muscle and a coherent strategy.

It is already an international brands company of real weight, though it needs an international beer brand — "in due course." It is disposing of "extraneous" businesses (Normand motor distributors, Embassy Hotels) and adding others it needs (Whitbread's spirits division). Half group earnings are overseas, where the business outlook is better than at home.

Allied look to have more options open than its main rivals, adding to the defensive qualities of the shares and giving them an edge as the great rationalization brew comes to the boil.

Faster employment growth

By Colin Narbrough

Employment grew substantially faster last spring than previously indicated, according to the Department of Employment's annual *Labour Force Survey*.

The workforce in employment grew by 3.4 million between March 1983 and last September — over 450,000 more than had been estimated. The rate of job growth averaged 750,000 over the past three years — faster than other main industrial economies.

Self-employment grew by 9 per cent over the year to last spring, suggesting an acceleration in the trend of recent years. Nearly 90 per cent of the overall growth was in full-time employment.

The 900,000 rise in employment led to a fall in unemployment of 400,000 between spring 1988 and last spring.

● Provisional figures showed output in the construction industry last year 4 per cent higher on 1988 in value terms.

Yellowhammer to reveal strategy

By Martin Waller

Yellowhammer, the struggling advertising agency, will on Monday reveal how much progress has been made in cutting costs and putting the company back in the black. But contrary to speculation, the restructuring is likely to fall short of an equity injection or full takeover.

Mr Jon Summerill, the chairman, and Mr Jeremy Pemberton, the creative director, have almost 30 per cent of the company between them and have rejected approaches from Europe and the US.

Analysts have awaited the reorganization at Yellowhammer since it reported a surprise £150,000 first-half loss in December. This prompted a 56p slide in the share price to 85p, against a year's high in September of 213p. Since then the shares have fallen further, to 35p at Friday's close, just 2p above their record low.

The losses were caused by spiralling costs when revenues were falling. As well as cutting back on overheads, Yellowhammer is thought to be considering closing some of its smaller operations, including its start-up ventures in France and Spain, which are estimated by Warburg Securities, the broker, to have cost as much as £1 million to date. Most likely to go is Yellowhammer Balades, the Spanish business.

For the year to end-March, Warburg expects Yellowhammer to make losses of about £1.5 million.

Mosaic's pattern of growth goes on

By Philip Pangalos

Mosaic Investments, the fast-growing mini-conglomerate in which Mr Greg Hutchings, of Tomkins, holds 14 per cent, has unveiled three further acquisitions — making a total of 20 in the past two years — for up to £16.5 million.

Mosaic is paying an initial £8.5 million — £7 million in cash and £1.5 million in new Mosaic shares — with deferred payments of up to £8 million.

It plans to raise £9.2 million by a placing and an open offer of 3.51 million ordinary shares at 290p each on a 1-for-3 basis.

This will finance the £7 million cash for the acquisitions and the £500,000 payable for Iddon, Bailey, Heydinger Advertising and Design, the advertising design company acquired last Wednesday.

The first of the acquisitions, Money Cooper, which designs exhibition stands, is for an initial £2.5 million, with up to £7 million deferred.

In addition, Mosaic is buying Channel Creasing Matrix, which makes creasing devices for the carton industry, for £4 million from Bunzl, plus £1 million for CCM's property in Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.

It is also acquiring Geo H Hughes, which manufactures and supplies wheels and tyres, for an initial £1 million, with up to £1 million deferred.

Mosaic plans a final of at least 4.25p, making 7.25p for the year, up 32 per cent. The shares eased 5p to 310p.

Richardson twins still thinking big despite property pain

Regentcrest counts cost in Rolls-Royces

By Matthew Bond

Interest payments are flowing out of Regentcrest, the troubled West End property company, at £25,000 a day, according to Mr Roy Richardson, its chairman.

Rents, he says, are coming in at about £10,000. The gap, says the West Midlands entrepreneur, is extremely painful.

Earlier this week, the company, of which he and his twin brother, Don, hold 13 per cent, announced interim losses of £9 million, with borrowings of £57 million dwarfing assets of £12 million.

Mr Richardson sees it slighly differently. "I think of it as a new Rolls-Royce going out of the company every three days," he said.

The Richardsons are used to thinking in terms of Rolls-Royces. They have become very wealthy by building their huge, privately-owned, Merry Hill shopping centre at Dudley. The complex currently has 1.8 million sq ft of shopping space. Business, says Mr Richardson, is "not too bad".

"Up here, we're more used to a Rolls-Royce coming into the company every three days," he said.

This week, the twins announced plans to take Regentcrest private, by paying most shareholders 15p a share. Yesterday, their lawyers were negotiating for the 18 per cent stake of Mr Alan Coutts, the chief executive, for rather less.

The offer provides little comfort for shareholders who, as recently as last July, saw their shares at 85p and three years ago saw a pre-crash peak of over 270p.

The Richardsons bought into Regentcrest, a former vehicle of Mr Jim Slater, in 1985 and used it originally as a holding company, acquiring stakes in companies such as Hall Engineering and Burns Anderson. Its aggressive property trading began only in 1987, when it bought Mr Coutts's private company, Coutts Corporate Finance, giving him an initial 29 per cent of Regentcrest.

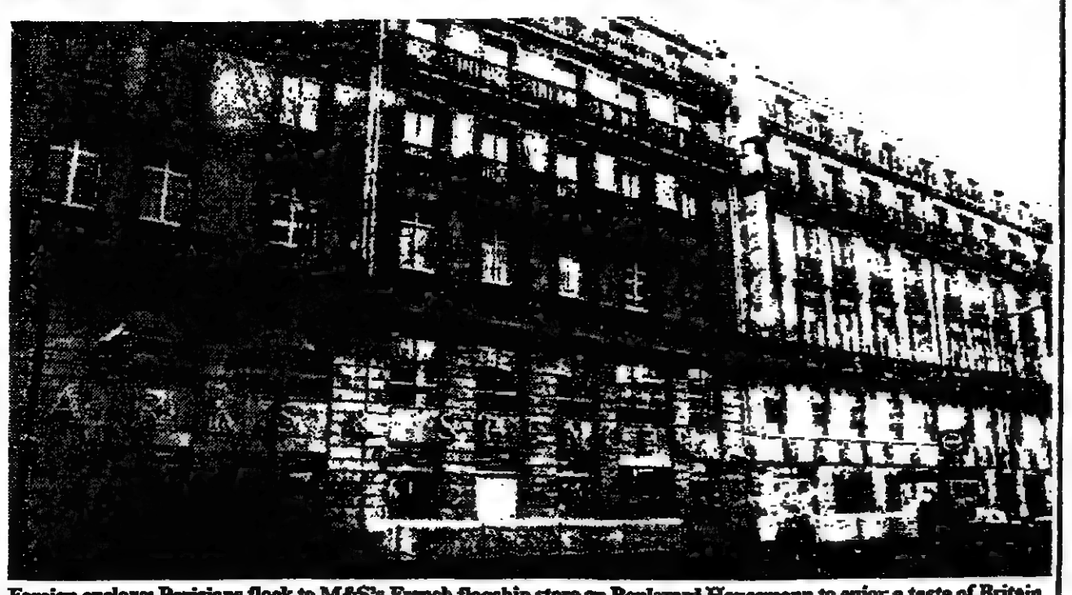
The timing could not have been worse, with most of Regentcrest's buying coinciding with the peak of the commercial property market, with the West End, particularly, over-heating. Now, says Mr Richardson, values have dropped and deals are taking much longer. "It's taken the margins out of the trade," he said.

Although, his enthusiasm for stock market quotes has waned, Mr Richardson has lost none of his keenness on property. "We're still interested in property everywhere," he said.

The Richardsons are still thinking big. Next week, the Duke of Gloucester will initiate investigative work at the 200-acre Dudley site into whether their plan for a 2,000 ft tower — the tallest in the world — is geologically possible.

St Michael wins over Paris

With Marks and Spencer due to open its first Spanish store next week, **Gillian Bowditch** looks at 15 years of M&S's flagship store in France and finds essential differences in national ways



Foreign enclave: Parisians flock to M&S's French flagship store on Boulevard Haussmann to enjoy a taste of Britain

A flying visit to Paris, gourmet centre of the western world, would convince most British retailers that it was unlikely to be the *most receptive market* for the sale of British sliced white pan bread.

But such is Marks and Spencer's reputation in France that Parisian housewives are snapping up "le sandwich loaf" like Chanel bargains in a sale. The loaf has become one of the best-selling food-lines at M&S's French flagship store on Boulevard Haussmann — much to the amazement of Mr Jim McDonald, the store manager.

"They like it because it keeps for a day or two, whereas baguettes are stale after a couple of hours," he says.

Catering for the Parisian penchant for sliced white bread is just one of the many idiosyncrasies Mr McDonald and his 400-strong team have incorporated into the Paris store in the 15 years since it opened.

The store, which operates on the usual M&S principles of quality and value, makes *concessions to Parisian tastes* and ways of life while still remaining essentially British.

This flexibility has undoubtedly paid off, with the Haussmann store officially among the top 10 M&S stores in terms of sales and profitability, although analysts rank it number five.

Turnover is believed to be heading for £100 million a year, giving the 48,000 sq ft store sales per sq ft of about £2,000.

On the food side, the Haussmann store, one of four M&S *stores in Paris*, has played cleverly on the international aspect of its offer and is now seen as the poor man's Fauchon, the speciality food store to rival all food stores on Rue de Seze where dressed lobsters (£46 each) nestle between elaborately decorated ducks and huge garlic snails (£16 a kg).

The M&S store offers humus and taramasolata, Scottish smoked salmon, traditional English biscuits, American cakes and Scottish shortbread, as well as bubble and squeak, chicken tikka and Chinese ribs. It is even attempting to sell microwave oven-ready meals to the French.

Mr Robert Hayman, the sales manager, says that with more microwave ovens coming into France, the divorce rate rising and more people living alone, M&S ready meals are taking off. The *Haussmann store is stronger on ambient food but is* attempting to sell more chilled.

Although food makes up only 20 per cent of the Haussmann store offer, there is more flexibility to offer lines which differ from those on sale in British M&S stores.

"Le Snack Shop" is a feature of which Mr McDonald and Mr Hayman are particularly proud. Here, despite the plethora of crêpe stalls and baguette booths outside, the French buy Le Breakfast Sandwich (sausage and egg) and Le Club Sandwich, traditional English sandwiches made in France but with M&S ingredients and to M&S specifications.

Marmalade with whisky and special packs of English tea are unique to M&S's eight French stores. Another special line is muffins which, Mr Hayman says, the French believe the English eat for breakfast. Chocolate chip muffins sell particularly well.

On the fashion side there *are three main differences* between Britain and France: colour, timing and size. Mr Hayman says: "The colour palette is much stronger and more targeted than in the UK. If we have a colour palette of seven colours, we can be really strong on three or four."

Timing of the new season's offer is crucial to the shop's success. Unlike British women who are prepared to shop through the January sales, French women want to see the autumn fashions in August and the first of the spring collection must be in the stores by December.

"They read a lot of fashion magazines and they expect a lot from us," says Mr Hayman. "In the UK customers are easier to please."

On size, the French women tend to be slightly shorter and slightly bigger than in Britain. The Haussmann store was one of the first M&S stores to have fitting rooms. French people insist on trying on clothes before they buy; before the installation of the 51 fitting rooms, the M&S customers would simply try on the clothes in the open.

French women are very demanding when it comes to clothes, says Mr Hayman. "They examine the stitching on a garment, look at the seams, examine the buttons and read the washing label. British customers tend to be a lot more tolerant." And Mr McDonald adds: "The French love to shop. There is a real buzz in here on a Saturday and it is quite exciting."

> ❝ The French love to shop. There is a real buzz on a Saturday. It is quite exciting ❞

On the menswear floor, the British look — Harris tweed jackets, Argyll socks — is a big seller. The suit business is still being built up but separates are extremely popular. But as any other M&S shop, if you stand still for two moments a man will come up to you clutching a pair of socks or a shirt to ask whether or not it will fit.

One of the store's main drawbacks is lack of space. It is considerably smaller than its sister shop, the British flagship at Marble Arch. Use of space is as innovative but decisions have to be taken on which ranges to promote and gondolas tend to be higher than ideal. But plans are afoot for an extension of the shop.

The biggest worry the team at the Haussmann store faces is transport strikes or storms in the Channel.

About 50 per cent of the food on sale is local but on the fashion side most of the lines come from the normal M&S suppliers in Britain.

In general the French retail scene is much stronger than in Britain with fewer French people owning their own homes and more money spent on fashion and eating out.

Mr Hayman says: "If you eavesdrop on a conversation in Britain you will hear people talking about transport or money. In Paris the conversation is about food and clothes. On a Sunday if a French couple go for a walk in the park they dress up. The English dress down. It's an essential difference."

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Allianz raises £270m and pays a bonus

Allianz, the West German insurance group that sponsors English cricket Test matches, is raising DM750 million (£270 million) by a one-for-10 rights issue, heavily discounted at DM500 a share.

There is a similar rights issue at DM32.50 a share for the profit participation certificates. The annual dividend is unchanged at DM12.00 per share. But the shareholders in Allianz, one of the most powerful insurance groups in Europe, will also receive a special centenary bonus of DM4.00 per share.

US jobs go at Swiss Bank

The Swiss Bank Corporation's New York branch is to close its securities custody business, cutting 60 jobs during the next 12 months. It is responsible for safekeeping and administering securities. Talks are on with a small number of banks to take over the service. A final selection is expected in the next few weeks. SBC employs 1,500 in the US.

Purchase hits Chestergate

Chestergate, the office-supply group, plunged to a £961,000 loss, from £1.67 *million pre-tax profit*, after its purchase of the Gilken Contracts re-fitting business went wrong in the year to October. Chestergate paid £3.5 million for Gilken, and now claims this "substantially over-valued" the firm as promised profits never materialised.

Pegasus flies higher

Pegasus Group, the USM accounting software developer and supplies group, lifted pre-tax profits from £1.29 million to £1.34 million in the six months to end-January. Earnings per share rose from 15.6p to 16.1p and the interim dividend is improved to 3.5p (3.37p). Turnover, boosted by organic growth and last April's £2.75 million Sphinx acquisition, doubled to £7.83 million.

The software side improved operating profits by 28.6 per cent to £1.25 million. However, Sphinx, a Unix software *distributor, made an operating loss of £277,000* on a turnover of £2.81 million. Sphinx's losses, which were about £700,000 a year when it was acquired, have now been reduced to near break-even. The shares slipped by 8p to 375p on the news.

Long haul for BGas deal

British Gas is making light of the difficulties it is facing in its acquisition Consumers Gas — Canada's biggest distributor of natural gas. There are two significant regulatory hurdles, approval from Investment Canada and the Ontario Energy Board. The talks and other red tape are likely to last at least six months.

Brierley faces threat in US

A Congressional committee on supervision has said that if Industrial Equity (Pacific), whose parent is Brierley Investments, is not registered in the US as an investment company, its activities — such as its 14.9 per cent stake in Cummins Engine — may be void and face Securities and Exchange Commission action.

Western co-ops to help perestroika

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Western European co-operatives, led by Britain's Co-op, have launched an initiative to promote *perestroika* by giving a helping hand to their counterparts in the Eastern bloc.

The aim is to create stronger trading links between the regions as centralized systems in the Eastern bloc are broken down, as well as to to provide the Eastern co-operatives with management training and education in buying, marketing and retailing.

Sir Dennis Landan, chief executive of Britain's Co-operative Wholesale Society — also chairman of Inter-Coop, a *21-member group of central* co-operatives from 19 countries — said the moves should help the Eastern bloc's efforts to switch to a market economy.

The drive by Inter-Coop, founded in 1971, will initially *be aimed at Poland, Bulgaria,* Yugoslavia, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The group is setting up office in Budapest to co-ordinate the initiative, with the main backing coming from Britain, Scandinavia and Switzerland. Japan and Israel are among other Inter-Coop members likely to be invited to join the scheme.

Sir Dennis sees the initiative as a breakthrough in collaboration between con*sumer co-operatives in particular.*

Ridley off to Eastern Europe

By Our Industrial Editor

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade and Industry Secretary, today leaves for a week-long visit to Eastern Europe prepared to offer grants to help increase trading opportunities for Britain.

A fund to help with training and other needs in East Europe has been set up by the Trade department, but more help is being considered, with grant aid seen as a better option than loans because so many existing loans cannot even be serviced on interest payments.

However, priorities for Mr Ridley when he talks with Soviet officials will be the matters of recent uncharacteristically slow payments on contracts and increasing confusion over setting up Anglo-Russian joint ventures.

Several small companies have complained to the DTI about slow payment and the department is to ask a cross-section of firms trading with the Soviet Union if they have had similar problems.

With joint ventures likely to be a key way in which British companies will invest in the Soviet Union, there has been some anxiety over speculation that the Soviets will call a halt on such deals until next year because of the extensive procedural changes being made as markets become more open.

Mr Ridley — and 16 executives from leading British companies — will also stress to Eastern ministers the importance of establishing commercial legal frameworks which will allow Western businesses to invest with confidence. There appear to be doubts over some joint ventures as the legal framework changes in the Soviet Union.

EC to attack nationalization

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

Sir Leon Brittan, the European Commissioner for Competition Policy, yesterday gave a warning that Brussels would take an increasingly tough line over nationalization.

The process, he said, was used to prop up ailing industries and covertly funnel unfair state subsidies to firms that could not make their own way in the market-place. Sir Leon said the Community did not forbid nationalization, and the Treaty of Rome recognized that states could maintain mixed economies.

But he noted that government intervention was often a short-term political reaction to save an important company going bankrupt, with industrial, social and regional consequences. The state sometimes expected these companies to provide uneconomic levels of employment, contribute to regional development or maintain an uneconomic presence in the market-place. Such additional costs had to be clearly recognized as aid, which must be compatible with EC policy.

He said: "The provision of these 'social goods' represents a political choice which ultimately has to be financed by the taxpayer, through a transfer of resources from one set of citizens to another."

Brussels is developing guidelines to prepare public companies for the internal market, ensuring they provide a reasonable return and assessing any dividends foregone.

Sir Leon, speaking at a conference on competition in Paris, said EC governments would have to give much fuller standardized annual reports on nationalized industries in future.

Assets threatened by failure to pay $5m interest

Campeau defaults on loans

Robert Campeau: in default

Campeau Corporation may be on the verge of losing more of its large empire.

The troubled Canadian company said this week it had *defaulted on $5.2 million* in interest payments to two lenders, risking the loss of sizeable assets, in Canada and the US.

The interest payments, due monthly, were not paid on Wednesday after being deferred from February 28.

Campeau, the Toronto-based parent of Federated Department Stores and Allied Stores, said it would not pay the interest, which it said "constitutes an event of default under the loans."

The loans involved are $225 million from Olympia & York Developments and $480 million from the Edward J DeBartolo Corp — both leading real estate developers.

Campeau said the lenders agreed in January they would not act to seize collateral for the loans without giving Campeau nine days' notice.

While Federated and Allied are both in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings in the US, Campeau is not involved. But analysts said that cash flow to *Campeau since the subsidiaries'* bankruptcy filing has dwindled.

If DeBartolo moves to seize those assets which act as collateral, it could obtain about 70 per cent of the common stock of Ralphs Supermarkets, a large Californian food chain, and 50 per cent of its joint-venture ownership of five American shopping centres. Olympia & York could obtain several Campeau office buildings.

A spokesman for Campeau said the company has the funds to pay the monthly *interest. However, he added* that it was trying to develop a long-term business plan with DeBartolo and Olympia & York, which could include debt restructuring and asset sales.

He said Olympia & York had agreed to defer the interest payments further on condition that DeBartolo did the same. However, DeBartolo gave no such approval.

Campeau said its decision not to make the interest payments resulted directly from a failure to obtain agreement from DeBartolo on any further deferral.

Meanwhile, Mr Robert Campeau, the company's founder and chairman, has been in default on personal loans to several Canadian banks lately, and has had to surrender additional equity to them.

(NY Times News Service)

Stratagem and B&C to fight on

By Jeremy Andrews

The bitterly fought battle between Stratagem, the tiny quoted investment company, and British & Commonwealth continues.

The fight goes on even though Stratagem has declared unconditional its £8.2 million offer for Colonnade Development Capital, an investment trust that is managed by B&C.

Mr Bernard Kerrison, Stratagem's chairman, has written to Colonnade's board to demand an orderly handover of control.

Stratagem said that it considered that the removal of Mr Richard Wevill and Mr Roy Barber from the board of Colonnade and the fact that Stratagem now owned or had received acceptances for 66.6 per cent of the equity should be sufficient evidence for the remaining members of the board that it could not now be said to have the support or confidence of shareholders.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
ADT	4,686	Coats	2,216	L&G	964	Sears	6,251
Abbey Nat	4,393	CU	447	Lloyds	1,555	Sedgwick	1,317
Alld-Lyons	1,165	Cookson	1,213	Lloyds Abb	411	Shell	4,736
Amstrad	8,532	Courtaulds	686	Lonrho	2,246	Siebe	398
ASDA	3,494	Dalgety	1,184	Lucas	498	Slough	213
All Foods	350	Dixons	806	M&S	3,940	Smith & N	5,745
Argyll	1,342	ECC	384	Maxwell Cm	863	SK Beech	3,326
BAA	775	Enterprise	752	MB Group	2,038	Do Uts	116
BET	1,064	Ferranti	6,183	Mecca	154	Smith WH	127
BTR	2,263	Fisons	653	MEPC	919	Smiths Ind	790
BAT	1,290	FKI	8,382	Midland	2,303	STC	5,376
Barclays	2,459	Gen Acc	115	Nat West	3,238	Stan Chart	170
Bass	250	GEC	4,648	Next	2,772	Storehse	413
Beazer	356	Glaxo	2,565	Nth Food	345	Sun Allnce	885
Bensfd Intl	5,781	Globe Inv	1,061	P&O	612	Sun Life	149
BICC	391	Glynwed	1,318	Pearson	202	T & N	338
Blue Arrow	1,693	Granada	1,399	Pilkington	451	TI Group	2,054
Blue Circle	763	Grand Met	2,097	Polly Peck	992	Tarmac	2,472
BOC	1,063	GUS 'A'	318	Prudential	1,875	Tate & Lyle	463
Boots	1,945	GRE	1,611	Racal	15,443	Taylor Wd	1,060
BPB	1,982	GKN	1,242	Racal Tele	1,346	TSB	2,527
Br Aero	254	Guinness	707	Rk Hovis	192	Tesco	2,139
Br Airways	1,311	Hamm 'A'	20	Rank	787	Thames Wtr	3,269
Br Comm	3,389	Hanson	6,842	R&C	1,038	Thorn EMI	785
Br Gas	5,627	Do Wts	199	Redland	802	Trafalgar	493
Br Land	411	H & C	908	Reed	1,485	THF	2,003
Br Petrol	7,071	Hawker	81	Reuters	709	Ultramar	1,858
Br Steel	4,385	Hillsdown	3,494	RMC Gp	722	Unigate	840
Br Telecm	2,296	IMI	547	RTZ	1,327	Unilever	1,661
Bunzl	240	ICI	935	R-Royce	5,889	United Bis	1,341
Burmah	193	Inchcape	687	Rothmn 'B'	43	Utd News	249
Burton	2,453	Kingfisher	1,250	Royal Bank	2,014	Wellcome	1,392
C&W	3,691	Lasmo	255	Royal Ins	1,176	Whitbrd	1,152
Cadbury	1,725	Ladbroke	2,760	Saatchi	2,071	Williams	1,473
Calor	228	Land Sec	667	Sainsbury	2,254	Wills Fab	785
Carlton	628	Laporte	139	Scot & N	425	Wimpey G	1,301

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 5	March 16	June 7	June 18

Call options were taken out on: 9/3/90 Oliver Resources, Central & Sheerwood, Eurotunnel Wts, Premier, Gaelic Resources, Robertson Group, Kwik-Fit, Next, Conroy Petroleum, Invicta.

Puts: Blacks Leisure, Leading Leisure.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch'ge (£)	Yearly ch'ge (£)	Daily ch'ge (lc)*	Yearly ch'ge (lc)*	Daily ch'ge (US$)	Yearly ch'ge (US$)
The World	757.2	0.9	−10.2	0.2	−7.8	−0.2	−9.7
(free)	144.7	0.9	−10.3	0.2	−7.9	−0.2	−9.8
EAFE	1353.6	0.9	−13.1	0.0	−10.1	−0.3	−12.6
(free)	136.0	0.9	−13.3	0.0	−10.3	−0.3	−12.8
Europe	731.7	0.8	−3.8	0.0	−3.7	−0.4	−3.2
(free)	157.2	0.8	−3.8	−0.2	−4.0	−0.4	−3.3
Nth America	513.9	1.0	−4.5	−0.2	−3.8	−0.1	−3.9
Nordic	1546.9	1.1	−0.6	0.0	−0.6	−0.1	0.0
(free)	243.2	1.1	3.4	−0.1	3.4	−0.1	4.0
Pacific	3239.0	1.0	−18.3	0.1	−13.9	−0.2	−17.8
Far East	4705.1	0.9	−18.7	0.0	−14.2	−0.3	−18.2
Australia	317.8	1.6	−8.5	0.7	−4.3	0.6	−7.9
Austria	2168.4	1.0	45.9	0.0	47.9	−0.2	46.8
Belgium	902.6	2.3	−8.3	1.3	−8.3	1.1	−7.8
Canada	553.2	0.6	−7.9	−0.7	−5.7	−0.5	−7.3
Denmark	1397.3	1.2	6.2	0.0	5.8	0.0	6.8
Finland	116.2	0.8	0.8	−0.3	0.7	−0.4	1.4
(free)	153.8	−0.3	3.2	−1.4	3.1	−1.5	3.8
France	770.2	1.2	−4.8	0.0	−4.7	0.0	−4.2
Germany	945.5	1.2	3.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	3.7
Hong Kong	2259.2	1.2	1.8	0.0	2.6	0.0	2.5
Italy	367.5	1.6	−4.7	0.5	−5.0	0.4	−4.1
Japan	4971.4	0.9	−19.4	0.0	−14.8	−0.3	−18.9
Netherlands	891.6	1.4	−5.7	0.2	−4.9	0.2	−5.1
New Zealand	91.9	1.5	−10.9	0.1	−9.4	0.3	−10.3
Norway	1636.2	1.0	21.5	0.0	22.4	−0.2	22.6
(free)	287.5	1.0	23.1	0.0	23.6	−0.2	23.9
Sing/Malay	2082.7	1.5	4.4	0.2	3.5	0.3	5.0
Spain	211.7	1.3	−10.6	0.1	−10.1	0.1	−10.0
Sweden	1607.3	1.2	−8.4	0.0	−8.3	0.0	−7.8
(free)	223.7	1.2	−7.6	0.0	−7.5	0.0	−7.0
Switzerland	905.5	0.6	−0.9	−0.3	−2.4	−0.6	−0.3
(free)	138.0	0.7	−1.1	−0.2	−2.7	−0.5	−0.5
UK	857.2	−0.1	−7.5	−0.1	−7.5	−1.3	−6.9
USA	453.0	1.1	−4.2	−0.1	−3.6	−0.1	−3.6

(lc)* Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon (*435)	420	32	42	57	9	18	20
	460	10	20	35	28	38	40
	500	2½	9	22	65	67	67
ASDA (*108)	100	13	18	21	2½	4½	7
	110	6	13	15	6½	8½	11
	120	3	8	11	14	15	17
Bass (*922)	900	55	82	115	12	23	28
	950	28	52	83	35	45	55
	1000	9	32	68	83	83	85
Boots (*262)	240	32	37	43	2	5	6½
	260	16	22	30	5	12	15
	280	6	10½	20	19	26	28
Brit Air (*199)	180	22	24	31	2	6	8
	200	7	12½	20	9½	16	17½
	220	2½	6	12	25	29	30
Brit Com (*57)	50	12	14	15	4	6	8
	60	6	9	11	7	12	15
	70	3	5	7	16	18	21
BP (*337)	300	43	49	57	2	4	6
	330	17	28	37	4	10	13
	360	4½	12½	21	24	25	36
Brit Steel (*138)	130	10½	12½	14½	½	2½	3
	135	7	–	–	3	–	–
	145	3	–	–	6	–	–
C & W (*519)	460	62	87	–	3½	10	–
	500	48	67	86	9	21	25
	550	16½	38	55	33	42	49
Com Union (*469)	460	19	35	44	17	25	28
	500	6	19	26	48	50	54
	550	2	6	14	98	98	100
Courtauld (*365)	330	47	52	–	1½	6	–
	360	22	28	40	9	17	20
	390	6	14	25	25	33	39
GKN (*407)	360	43	58	65	4	7	13
	390	20	40	47	15	18	22
	420	9	20	35	30	33	35
Grand Met (*551)	500	68	88	100	3½	10	12
	550	27	50	65	15	23	30
	600	8	25	39	49	49	52
ICI (*1117)	1000	85	129	144	10	19	28
	1050	53	94	112	22	34	47
	1100	24	65	82	52	60	70
Kingfisher (*284)	260	33	38	42	2½	6	8
	280	18	22	30	8	14	18
	300	8	12	19	20	24	27
Ladbroke (*287)	260	35	40	–	1½	5½	–
	280	19	27	37	6	12	15
	300	8	18	27	18	22	23
Land Sec (*473)	460	30	40	52	8	17	19
	500	8	18	30	32	37	42
	550	1½	6	14	82	82	82
M & S (*198)	180	22	25	31	1	4	5½
	200	7	12	19	7½	11	14
	220	2	5	10	24	26	26
STC (*268)	240	25	38	45	7	10	14
	260	13	26	33	14	18	22
	280	5	16	–	29	29	–
Sainsbury (*281)	240	30	35	43	2½	4	5
	260	14	20	29	6	9	11
	280	4	10	17	19	22	22
Shell (*465)	420	66	70	82	3	8	12
	460	23	40	52	12	18	22
	500	6	22	30	37	40	42
Smkl Beech (*520)	500	36	52	69	12	18	29
	550	11	25	40	39	43	47
	600	2	12	23	82	83	85
Storehse (*117)	100	21	24	28	1½	4	4½
	110	13	15	18	3½	7	8
	120	5½	10	13	7	12	13
Trafalgar (*320)	300	34	40	52	5	11	12
	330	15	23	37	17	22	27
	360	5	13	22	45	47	47
Ultramar (*362)	330	30	48	58	4	8	12
	360	17	30	42	15	20	28
	390	7	18	27	37	40	42
Unilever (*680)	600	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	650	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	700	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	750	2	8½	–	110	108	–
Utd Bisc (*324)	300	28	38	45	5	9	10
	330	9	19	27	19	22	24
	360	2½	9	16	45	46	47
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAA (*388)	360	44	50	67	7	11	14
	390	24	35	45	15	21	27
	420	12	21	31	34	37	42
BAT Ind (*806)	750	76	103	130	12	17	23
	800	35	68	93	27	36	40
	850	11	40	65	60	65	70
	900	6	–	–	98	–	–
BTR (*416)	390	36	62	66	7	9	15
	420	17	32	42	22	28	27
	460	5	17	–	50	52	–
Brit Aero (*490)	460	42	60	70	19	27	32
	500	22	36	60	42	45	52
	550	9	20	32	80	85	90
Brit Tele (*274)	260	26	33	–	4½	8	–
	280	12	19	27	11	15½	17
	300	4½	10½	17	[illegible]	29	29
Cadbury (*323)	300	30	43	50	9	11	15
	330	13	25	33	23	28	28
	360	5½	14	22	48	48	50
Guinness (*650)	600	55	80	105	9	14	17
	650	30	64	70	27	33	37
	700	12	32	47	60	63	67
GEC (*208)	200	20	27	28	4	6½	8½
	220	8	15	19	13	16½	18
	240	3	7	11	31	32	33
Hanson (*223)	200	40½	43	52	1	2	3
	220	23	27½	37	3½	6	7½
	240	8½	16	23½	11	15	16
LASMO (*600)	550	70	95	–	10	17	–
	600	37	63	78	[illegible]	33	37
	650	20	37	56	57	60	65

	Series	Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
P & O (*583)	550	43½	59½	69½	14	18½	26
	600	14½	31½	42½	41	44½	50½
	650	3½	15½	24½	85½	86½	88½
Pilkington (*207)	200	21	24	28	5	9	12
	220	8½	13	18	15	19	23
	240	3½	7	–	34	34	–
Prudential (*198)	180	25	28	–	3	6	–
	200	10	18	19	11	13	15
	220	3½	9	11	[illegible]	27	[illegible]
Racal (*211)	210	15	–	–	11	–	–
	230	7	–	–	26	–	–
	260	2½	6½	–	54	55	–
RTZ (*534)	500	50	65	77	12	15	20
	550	18	35	45	37	40	44
	600	6	18	29	77	80	82
Smt & Nep (*291)	280	30	38	45	6	11	16
	300	17	27	34	18	25	25
	330	7	13	22	39	43	45
Tesco (*199)	180	23½	29½	33½	1½	3½	4½
	200	8½	16	21	8½	10	11½
	220	2½	7½	12	24	24½	25
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Abbey Nat (*194)	160	31	38	40	1	2	3
	180	12	20	22	2	5½	8
	200	2	10	12	13	15	17
	Series	Mar	May	Aug	Mar	May	Aug
Ferranti (*40)	35	5½	8½	–	½	2½	–
	40	2	5	–	2½	4	–
	45	1½	3	–	6½	8	–
Polly Peck (*381)	360	25½	38½	54½	2	18½	22
	390	6½	22	38	13½	30½	38½
	420	2	12½	25	41	51½	57
Thames Wtr (*149)	130	21	25	–	¼	1½	–
	140	11	17	22	1½	3	8
	150	1½	6½	10	11	12	20
	160	1	1½	4	31	31	38
Wtr Package (*1545)	1500	80	130	160	15	40	60
	1550	50	100	130	30	60	120
	1600	25	70	100	60	80	150
	1650	20	50	80	110	115	190
	Series	Apr	Jun	Aug	Apr	Jun	Aug
Reuters (*1035)	950	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	1000	76½	104½	133	23½	36½	47½
	1050	46½	81½	105½	45½	61½	70½
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Amstrad (*54)	45	9½	13	16½	1	3	4
	50	5	9½	14	1½	5	6½
	60	1½	6	8½	8	10	12
Barclays (*585)	460	113	127	–	1	2	–
	500	73	91	100	1½	6	9
	550	25	50	65	5	13	21
	600	3½	21	35	35	37	45
Blue Circ (*225)	200	28	31	–	1½	4½	–
	220	12	17	27	3	12	14
	250	1½	–	–	27	–	–
Brit Gas (*210)	200	13	21	23	1½	4	6½
	220	1½	10	12	10	12	16
	240	1	4	5½	29	29	29
Dixons (*128)	120	9	15	18	1½	5	6
	130	3	10	12	5	8	10
	140	1	5	8	13	14	15
Glaxo (*711)	650	65	87	112	3	13	17
	675	42	69	–	5	18	–
	700	21	54	79	12	32	35
	725	7	40	–	27	43	–
Hawker (*609)	600	28	54	80	7	25	40
	650	6	28	55	43	50	75
	700	4	18	40	90	110	110
Hillsdown (*253)	240	16	28	35	2	9	10
	260	4½	14	24	9	17	20
	280	2	7	13	28	30	31
Lonrho (*270)	240	32	45	–	2	4	–
	260	14	30	37	4	11	14
	280	3½	20	27	15	20	22
Midland (*328)	330	10	30	38	8	19	25
	360	3	17	27	33	34	40
	390	1½	9	18	63	63	65
R-Royce (*175)	160	17	20½	26	1	5½	7
	180	3	9	16	6	14	16
	200	1	4	8½	26	30	31
Sears (*99)	100	4	7	9½	3½	7½	9
	110	1	4	6½	11	12½	13
	120	½	1½	3	21	22	23
THF (*281)	260	8	16	25	4½	14	16
	280	1½	8	15	20	26	28
	300	1	5½	9	39	43	44
Thorn EMI (*680)	650	35	70	74	8	16	28
	700	7	38	45	27	34	50
	750	2	17	27	77	77	82
TSB (*133)	130	7	13	16	1½	5	7
	140	2½	8	10	8	10	12
	160	1½	3	4	28	28	28
Vaal Reefs (*$101)	100	7	15	20	4	11	13
	110	3	12	16	10	16	16
Wellcome (*685)	650	28	65	92	12	32	42
	700	8	38	67	40	57	64
	750	1½	22	45	90	95	99

FT-SE INDEX (*2233)

	2150	2200	2250	2300	2350	2400
Calls						
Mar	103	63	34	14	6½	2½
Apr	135	95	66	44	27	16
May	152	115	82	62	45	30
Jun	165	139	108	85	63	40
Dec	–	253	–	190	–	140
Puts						
Mar	14	26	47	85	128	175
Apr	30	45	68	97	135	177
May	43	57	79	111	143	185
Jun	50	87	85	112	135	187
Dec	–	95	–	140	–	202

March 9, 1990 Total: 23006 Calls 13093 Puts 9913 FT-SE: Calls 2221 Puts 3295

*Underlying security price.

WALL STREET

New York (Reuter) — The Dow Jones industrial average fell by 6 points to 2,690.17 in early trading. Share prices followed bonds lower.

A downturn in the dollar also encouraged the selling. Bonds were depressed by an unexpectedly robust employment report for February, which showed that payrolls expanded by 372,000 — above the estimated rise of 234,000. Unemployment was steady at 5.3 per cent.

● Tokyo — The Nikkei index climbed 302.23 points, or 0.90 per cent, to 33,993.12. Shares closed broadly higher but well off their morning peaks in moderate trading.

● Frankfurt — The DAX index closed 2.18 points down at 1,860.92.

STOCK MARKET

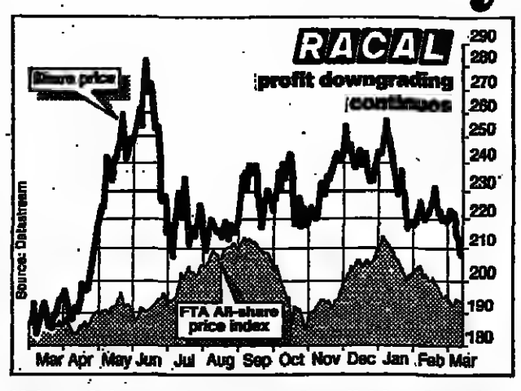
Elders places brewery stake at a heavy loss

Elders IXL, the Australian group headed by Mr John Elliott, has managed to place its near 14 per cent holding in Greene, King, the East Anglian brewery — but only just.

Credit Suisse First Boston, one of Elders' financial advisers, struggled to find buyers at about the 355p level with the price falling 6p to 358p. But, by the close of business, all the 5.8 million shares had been found a home.

Mr Elliott, who this week announced a restructuring programme, designed to change Elders from an industrial conglomerate into a brewing company, is believed to have suffered a hefty trading loss on his Greene, King stake. He is thought to have paid more than 400p a share for the last tranch and was frustrated by James Capel's abortive attempt to place the shares at about the 530p mark last year.

Body Shop rose 4p to 474p. County NatWest WoodMac, the broker, says its long-term prospects are exciting. It has downgraded profits for the year just ended from £16 million to £14.5 million. But it is looking for earnings growth of about 50 per cent for the next two years.



The rest of the equity market ended the account on a dull note. Prices made a bright start, helped by a £45 million programme trade and buying orders on Battery March, the New York overnight dealing system. But a lead of 13.3 in the FT-SE 100 index was quickly whittled away by talk in the currency and futures markets that the Prime Minister was about to announce her resignation — which also put the skids under the pound.

The index closed 15.7 down at 2,234.3; but this is a fall on the account of just 2.4 points. The FT index of top 30 shares lost 10.6 to 1,763.8 but was 1.5 points up on the account. A total of 549.1 million shares were traded.

Government securities, reflecting the weaker pound, closed with losses stretching to £1. Glaxo managed to resist the downward pull, adding 8p to 712p ahead of its full-year figures next week. The market is expecting a rise in pre-tax profits from £1 billion to £1.14 billion. Guinness also advanced 4p to 649½p ahead of its full-year figures, expected to show taxable profits up from £521 million to £673 million.

Still drawing strength from its recent better-than-expected results, GKN strengthened a further 5p to 407p.

British Gas fell 4½p to 210p on the growing political opposition to its proposed £564 million acquisition of Consumers Gas of Toronto. Enterprise Oil was another weak market, losing 17p to 599p on revived talk that ICI is considering selling its 25 per cent *holding*. Lasmo, 11p lighter at 600p, owns a further 25 per cent of Enterprise.

STC firmed 8p to 271½p, still benefiting from a bullish circular from Kitcat & Aitken, the broker. The shares are due to go ex-dividend on Monday. Also going ex-dividend on Monday is Cadbury Schweppes, 3p dearer at 323p.

Reckitt & Colman fell 12½p to £11.12 after announcing details of its proposed acquisition of the household products division of American Home Products for $1.25 billion.

Racal Electronics slipped 3p to 210½p after suffering another profits downgrading. Smith New Court, the broker, met the company on Thursday and has decided to cut its estimate by £10 million to £208 million for the year to the end of this month.

It has also reduced its estimate for 1991 by a similar sum to £330 million. Mr Mike Styles, an analyst, blames high interest rates and a disappointing performance by its US data communications division where a recent acquisition has failed to live up to expectations. Last week, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the investment bank, reduced its forecast for the current year to £207 million.

But Mr Styles says that his estimates for Racal Telecom remain unchanged at £160 million for 1990 and £255 million for the year after. He believes that the long-term outlook for Telecom remains "very good." The Racal "twins" have been under pressure this week, upset by selling of the shares in New York. The sellers were led by Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house. Racal Telecom closed 1p cheaper at 371½p. Psion, the hand-held computers group, well known for its personal organizer, *tumbled 68p to 185p after a* disappointing set of annual figures.

Pre-tax profits rose from £2.75 million to £3.34 million.

A profits warning left ASB Barnett Kinnings, the Third Market recruitment consultant, 19p down at 43p.

The recently-privatized water companies continued to reel from the Government's proposals to ban the dumping of treated and untreated sewage in the North Sea. Dealers fear that the cost of building incinerators on land will have to be met by the water companies and could add a further 6 per cent to water rates. Falls were seen in Anglian, 3p to 161p, Northumbrian, 4p to 168p, North West, 4p to 149p, Severn Trent, 4p to 141p, Southern, 6p to 136½p, South West, 4p to 168½p, Thames, 5p to 148½p, Wessex, 2p to 170p, and Yorkshire, 5p to 175p.

British Steel hardened ½p to 137¾p. Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house, rates the shares as a buy and says BS should be able to offset lower British demand with more exports. Goldman expects the share price to grow by at least 50 per cent during the next two years.

The insurance composites shrugged-off a dull start, helped by revived bid talk. News of a cash-call by Allianz, the West German financial services group, raised hopes that it may buy a British insurer. A few years ago, it bid for Eagle Star but was beaten into second place by BAT Industries. Guardian Royal Exchange, seen as a possible target, gained 1p to 228½p, after 226p. Commercial Union managed to reduce its loss on the day to 5p at 469p, while General Accident slid 12½p to £10.12 and Royal Insurance eased 2p to 494½p.

Michael Clark

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

ABI Leisure (125p)	124 +1
ADG Group (14p)	16 +½
Abtrust Thai (100p)	84
Analysis Hidgs	17 −2
Anglo Park	78
Anglo Scan Inv Tst	82
Beta Global Emerg (100p)	93
Cafe Ins	220
Chartwell	300
Chiltern Radio (210p)	235
Citybond	215
East Surrey Water	141
Euromoney	363
F&C German	138
Fastforward	120
Gartmore Emerg Pacific	54
Goldsmiths New	131 −1
Grosvnr Dev (100p)	105 −1
Lon & New York (100p)	90
Malaysian Emerg	550 −17
Micklegate Gp (75p)	50
Midland Radio	167 −2
Novalal (100p)	98 +2
Oxford Virolgy	55
Pancau Mining	80
Polysource	8
Sage Gp (130p)	181
Sutton Water	131
TR High Inc (620p)	106
Wiltshire Brew (70p)	70

See main listing for Water shares

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cityvision N/P	¼
Electra N/P	2½
Intl Comms N/P	4 +1
Microtec N/P	25
MSM N/P	1½
Radiotrust N/P	11
Rosenhaugh NP	28 −8

(Issue price in brackets).

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c: Typical	5.00	5.10	4.08	none/none	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	10.87	10.87	8.70	25,000-50,000	1 mth	01-626 1567
"	11.00	11.00	8.80	25,000-50,000	6 mth	01-626 1567
Lloyds	10.51	10.51	8.41	2,500-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	10.76	10.76	8.61	2,500-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	11.25	11.25	9.00	10,000-no max	1 mth	01-260 2805
" " "	10.76	10.76	8.61	10,000-no max	6 mth	01-260 2805
NatWest	10.75	10.75	8.60	10,000-24,000	1 mth	01-726 1000
" " "	11.81	11.81	9.45	10,000-24,000	6 mth	01-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	10.64	11.19	8.94	2,500	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	9.50	9.84	7.87	1,000‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	7.10	7.30	5.84	No min‡	none	01 626 6543
Girobank	9.25	9.25	7.40	1,000‡	none	051 966 2076
Lloyds HICA	7.00	7.20	5.76	500‡	none	01-325 3336
Midland HICA	9.50	9.84	7.87	2,000‡	none	——
NatWest Special Reserve	9.00	9.31	7.45	500‡	none	01-374 3374
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	9.75	10.11	8.09	2,500	none	031-556 8555
TSB (England & Wales)	9.00	9.00	7.20	2,000‡	none	01-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 min	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
North of Engl.	6.90	6.90	5.52	1 min	none	——
Heart of Engl.	9.25	9.25	7.40	250 min	——	——
Holmesdale Benf	10.41	10.41	8.32	500 min	——	——
Chelt & Glouc	10.00	10.00	8.00	10,000 min	——	——
[illegible]	11.00	11.00	8.80	20,000 min	——	——
Best buy — all socs:						
Holmesdale Benf	10.41	10.41	8.32	500 min	none	——
Guardian	11.10	11.57	9.25	3,000 min	30 day	——
Holmesdale Benf	11.04	11.04	8.83	500 min	60 day	——
Mornington	11.20	11.20	8.95	1,000 min	90 day	——
Lambeth	10.25	10.51	8.40	250 min	6 mths	——
Cash/Cheque Accounts:						
Halifax Card Cash	3.75	3.75	3.00	1 min		Rates rise
Alliance & Leicester	6.90	6.90	5.52	500 min		with larger
Nationwide Anglia Flex	6.00	6.00	4.80	500 min		balances

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 01 404 5766 for further details

NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c¹	5.00	3.75	3.00	5-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	11.75	8.81	7.05	5-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	12.50	9.38	7.50	2,000-25,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*☐	12.50	9.38	7.50		3 mth	041-649-4555
34th Issue Cert²†	7.50	7.50	7.50	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	7.50	7.50	7.50	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	5.01	5.01	5.01			
Capital Bond	12.00	8.02	7.38	100-no max	5 yrs	041-649-4555
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Shield Assurance	12.30	12.30	10.46	5,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Consolidated Life	11.36	11.36	9.66	5,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Providence Cap.	11.25	11.25	9.56	10,000 min	3 yrs	Vere call
Consolidated Life	10.75	10.75	9.14	2,000 min	4 yrs	01 404 5766
Hill Samuel	11.60	11.60	9.86	10,000 min	5 yrs	for details

		Holiday rates	£ buys
RPI (January 89-90)	+7.7%	Spanish Pesetas:	175.75
Bank Base Rate	15.0%	French Francs:	9.28
Personal Loan	24.9%	Greek Drachmas:	261.00
Credit Card	19.5-31%	Italian Lire:	2030.00

¹2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ² Additional holdings up to £10,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums ☐ No longer on sale

Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Halifax	14.70	£60-150k	80	Rates after 0.9%
0422 333333	14.80	£150k+	75	discount to 31.1.91
Leeds Permanent 0532 438181	14.75	£50k+	95	Rate after 0.55% cut for 3 years
Woolwich Equitable 01 854 2400	14.75	£80k+	100	Rate after 0.5% cut for 5 years
BANKS				
Girobank 051 966 2878	14.70	£50k+	95	
OTHER (INSURANCE COMPANY)				
Provident Mutual 0438 726265	13.75	£15k+	95	Rate fixed to 1.3.91

Figures supplied by Bay's Guides Ltd: Telephone 0753 880482.

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1989/90 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chng	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1989/90 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chng	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 86.6 (day's range 86.6-87.2).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for March 9

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1.6180-1.6340	1.6180-1.6190	1.03-1.02pr	2.66-2.66pr
Montreal	1.9068-1.9298	1.9068-1.9104	0.40-0.32pr	0.67-0.59pr
Amsterdm	3.0993-3.1250	3.0993-3.1028	1½-1¼pr	4¾-4½pr
Brussels	57.07-57.76	57.07-57.28	27-25pr	68-63pr
Copnhgn	10.5608-10.5915	10.5688-10.5915	2¾-2¼pr	7¾-7pr
Dublin	1.0331-1.0460	1.0352-1.0362	37-32pr	73-63pr
Frankft	2.7571-2.7767	2.7571-2.7604	1½-1¼pr	4¾-4½pr
Lisbon	242.45-245.10	242.46-243.42	9-28ds	98-132ds
Madrid	176.77-178.68	176.11-176.26	11-par pr	14-2pr
Milan	2034.23-2049.85	2034.23-2037.14	7-3pr	13-11pr
Oslo	10.6545-10.7403	10.6545-10.6723	3½-3¼pr	9¼-8¾pr
Paris	9.3092-9.3873	9.3092-9.3230	4¼-4¼pr	10¾-10¼pr
Stockhlm	9.9734-10.0752	9.9734-9.9957	½-¾pr	1¼-1¼pr
Tokyo	244.80-246.90	244.80-245.12	1¾-1¾pr	4¾-4½pr
Vienna	19.3464-19.5426	19.3464-19.3748	12¼-11½pr	30¾-28¼pr
Zurich	2.4448-2.4600	2.4448-2.4479	1½-1¼pr	3¾-3¼pr

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	7685.92-7708.44
Australia dollar	2.1331-2.1375
Bahrain dinar	0.611-0.619
Brazil cruzado*	55.8688-55.9673
Cyprus pound	0.77-0.78
Finland marka	4.9665-5.5635
Greece drachma	261.15-264.35
Hong Kong dollar	12.6710-12.6805
India rupee	27.68-27.98
Kuwait dinar KD	0.475-0.481
Malaysia ringgit	4.3858-4.3903
Mexico peso	4460-4560
New Zealand dollar	2.7514-2.7579
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0766-6.1585
Singapore dollar	3.0355-3.0391
S Africa rand (fin)	6.1408-6.2625
S Africa rand (com)	4.1944-4.2020
U A E dirham	5.9525-6.0325

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Extel and Barclays Bank GTS

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5635-1.5660	Denmark	6.5135-6.5185	Italy	1255.0-1256.0
Singapore	1.6890-1.6910	W Germany	1.6890-1.7000	Belgium (Com)	35.31-35.35
Malaysia	2.7040-2.7050	Switzerland	1.5080-1.5090	Hong Kong	7.8120-7.8130
Australia	1.3154-1.3171	Netherlands	1.9140-1.9150	Portugal	150.15-150.35
Canada	1.1770-1.1780	France	5.7470-5.7520	Spain	109.25-109.45
Sweden	6.1640-6.1690	Japan	151.15-151.25	Austria	11.97-11.98
Norway	6.5825-6.5875				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Extel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 15 Finance Hse 15½
Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 14% Low 14 Week fixed: 14%
Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mth — 14% 3 mth — 14%
Selling: 2 mth — 14% 3 mth — 14½
Prime Bank Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 14⅝-14 29/32
2 mth: 14 29/32-14⅝ 3 mth: 14 11/16-14⅝ 6 mth 14 9/16-14 7/16
Trade Bills (Discount %): 1 mth: 15¾
2 mth: 15 13/32 3 mth: 15 9/16 6 mth 14 15/16
Interbank (%). Overnight: open 15 close 16
1 week: 14 15/16-¾ 1 mth: 15 29/32-¾ 3 mth: 15¾-15⅛
6 mth: 15 9/16-7/16 9 mth: 15⅝-15½ 12 mth: 15⅝-15⅝
Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 day: 14% 7 day: 14% 1 mth: 15
3 mth: 15⅛ 6 mth: 15⅝ 12 mth: 15 9/16
Sterling CDs (%): 1 mth: 15 1/16-15
3 mth: 15 9/16-15⅝ 6 mth: 15 9/16-7/16 12 mth 15 9/16-7/16
Dollar CDs (%): 1 mth: 8.35-8.30
3 mth: 8.38-8.33 6 mth: 8.50-8.45 12 mth 8.75-8.70
Building Society CDs (%)
1 mth: 15 1/16-15 2 mth: 15 9/16-15⅝ 3 mth: 15¾-15 7/16
6 mth: 15 7/16-15⅝ 9 mth: 15 7/16-7/16 12 mth: 15¾-15⅝

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar:	8¼-8	8 9/16-8 7/16	8 7/16-8 5/16	8 9/16-8 7/16
Call: 8¼-7%				
Deutschemarks	7⅞-7¾	8¼-8	8⅜-8¼	8¼-8⅛
Call: 7¾-8¼				
French Francs	10 9/16-10	10 9/16-3/16	10 11/16-9/16	10⅝-10⅜
Call: 10⅝-9⅝				
Swiss Francs	8¼-8⅛	8 15/16-13/16	9 1/16-8 15/16	9⅝-8
Call: 9¼-8¼				
Yen:	8 11/16-8 9/16	7 15/16-7 9/16	7⅞-7⅞	7⅞-7½
Call: 8⅝-8⅛				

GOLD

BULLION: Per ounce
Open: $400.50-401.00 Close: $399.00-399.50
High: $400.50-401.00 Low: $397.25-397.75

COINS: Per coin (Ex VAT)
Britannia: $410.00-415.00 (£253.00-256.00)
Krugerrand: $398.00-401.00 (£245.00-246.00)
Mapleleaf (1/oz): $410.00-415.00 (£253.00-256.00)
American Eagles: $410.00-415.00 (£253.00-256.00)
New Sovereigns: $93.00-94.00 (£57.00-58.00)
Old Sovereigns: $93.00-94.00 (£57.00-58.00)
Platinum: $502.15 (£309.20)
Palladium: $131.10 (£80.75)
Silver: $5.10-5.12 (£3.150-3.165)

THIRD MARKET

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest 28048					
Mar 90	2285.0	2286.0	2228.0	2228.0	4436
Jun 90	2301.0	2301.0	2286.0	2286.0	189
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest 158138					
Mar 90	84.78	84.78	84.64	84.67	6966
Jun 90	84.82	84.83	84.64	84.67	37516
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest 43606					
Mar 90	91.57	91.58	91.51	91.51	1159
Jun 90	91.45	91.47	91.31	91.32	7800
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest 58476					
Mar 90	91.54	91.56	91.52	91.53	872
Jun 90	90.93	90.95	90.83	90.85	5773

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three month ECU Previous open interest 4265					
Mar 90	89.09	89.09	89.02	89.05	98
Jun 90	88.74	88.74	88.55	88.55	357
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest 4862					
Jun 90	92-30	93-02	91-27	91-31	2195
Long Gilt Previous open interest 32544					
Jun 90	82-28	82-28	81-09	81-13	30474
Japanese Govt Bond Previous open interest 694					
Jun 90	94.00	94.00	93.75	93.83	96
German Govt Bond Previous open interest 51723					
Jun 90	91.45	91.76	91.12	91.25	39533
Sep 90	81.85	81.70	81.37	81.25	170

COMMODITIES

ICIS-LOR Group
Owing to weaker technicals and fundamentals, prices fell about 30 cents over the week. Gasoil fell with the futures whilst other products were essentially unchanged.

CRUDE OILS/assessed ($/BBL FOB)

Brent Phys	18.70	
15 day Mar	18.80	+05
15 day Apr	18.90	
WTI Apr	20.75	-05
WTI May	20.90	-10

PRODUCTS Bay/well $/MT.

Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery		
Prem Gas .15	216-218	
Gasoil EEC	166-170	-2
Non 1H Apr	157-159	-5
Non 1H May	158-159	-2
3.5 Fuel Oil	85 -87	-1
Naphtha	173-175	-1

BIFFEX
£25 Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

Mar 90	Hi 1645-1637	Low	Close 1639
Apr 90	Hi 1656-1641	Low	Close 1644
Jul 90	Hi ——	Low	Close 1388
Oct 90	Hi 1483-1483	Low	Close 1479
Vol 109 lots			Open Interest 4764

Dry cargo index 1629 +7

IPE FUTURES

GAS OIL	AMT Futures
Apr	161.50-61.25
May	159.00-58.75
Jun	158.75-58.50
Jul	160.00-59.50
Aug	162.00-60.50
Sep	163.75-62.00
Oct	166.50-61.75
Vol	4065

BRENT	AMT Futures
Apr	1893-1890
May	1902-1898
Vol	9588

LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)

Mth	Open	Close
Apr	168.5	167.5
May	202.0	197.5
Nov	98.0	98.0
Feb	111.0	111.0
		Vol 514

LONDON FOX

COCOA	AMT Futures	COFFEE	AMT Futures
Mar 708-708	Dec 771-770	Mar 717-713	Nov 725-724
May 722-721	Mar 781-780	May 734-733	Jan 735-733
Jul 734-733	May 807-806	Jul 705-704	Mar 750-740
Sep 746-747	Vol 8014	Sep 714-713	Vol 7149

SUGAR	C Czarnikow
FOB-	Vol: 8980
May 347.0-46.8	Dec 329.5-19.0
Aug 344.4-44.2	Mar 305.0-04.0
Oct 331.0-30.8	May 305 0-02.0

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT close (£/t)	Vol 275	BARLEY close (£/t)	Vol 18
Mr 111.00 My 113.55	Ja 115.30	Mr 104.75 My 106.75	Sp 103.50
Sp 108.35 Nv 109.35	Ja 113.05	Nv 107.20 Ja 110.55	Mr 113.00

SOYABEAN	AMT Futures
Apr 126.0-29.0	Oct 127.0-27.5
Jun 122.5-23.5	Dec 130.0-33.0
Aug 123.0-24.5	Feb 131.0-35.0
	Vol 35

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official prices/volume previous day — Rudolf Wolff

(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol	Tone
Copper Gde A	1633.0-1634.0	1600.0-1601.0	442825	Very Firm
Lead	670.0-672.0	495.0-496.0	154150	Stdy Sdy
Zinc Hi Gde*	1580.0-1600.0	n/a	5275	[illegible]
Zinc Spec Hi*	1655.0-1656.0	1547.0-1548.0	152200	Irregular
Tin*	6360.0-6370.0	6460.0-6480.0	4305	Steady
Aluminium Hi*	1513.0-1514.0	1519.0-1520.0	468425	Steady
Nickel*	9175.0-9200.0	8875.0-8900.0	14822	Firmer

† (Cents per Troy oz). * ($ per tonne)

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (£/kg)

Live Pig Contract

Mth	Open	Close
Apr	118.8	119.3
Jun	118.8	118.8
Aug	114.0	114.5
Oct	118.8	118.8

Live Cattle Contract

Apr	unq	112.0
May	unq	unq
Jun	unq	113.0

Vol Pig-40 Cattle-0

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Av'ge fatstock prices at representative markets on March 9

(Kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB (p)	97.02	226.98	109.32
GB (+/-)	+2.08	+11.14	-0.11
Eng/Wal (%)	-9.1	+20.3	-6.1
Eng/Wal (p)	97.02	225.67	109.37
Eng/Wal (+/-)	+2.06	+10.90	+0.46
Scotland (%)	n/a	-37.5	-53.4
Scotland (p)	n/a	232.67	106.85
Scotland (+/-)	n/a	+14.40	-2.84

* Estimated dead carcase weight

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Cheerless end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 26. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day March 12. Settlement day March 19. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at 4pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running-total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Eastern Prod	Industrials E-K	
2	Lowe Group	Paper,Print,Adv	
3	Halma	Industrials E-K	
4	Scot Heritable	Industrials S-Z	
5	FKI (aa)	Electricals	
6	Union Square	Property	
7	Gent SR	Drapery,Stores	
8	BAT (aa)	Tobaccos	
9	Baynes (Charles)	Industrials A-D	
10	Courtaulds (aa)	Textiles	
11	Johnson Cleaners	Industrials E-K	
12	Sketchley	Industrials S-Z	
13	Securicor	Industrials S-Z	
14	TIP Europe	Transport	
15	Bank of Ireland	Banks,Discount	
16	Gleeson (MJ)	Building,Roads	
17	Jardine Math	Industrials E-K	
18	Fyffes	Foods	
19	Alexon	Drapery,Stores	
20	Sutcliffe Speakman	Chemicals,Plas	
21	Wyndham Eng	Industrials S-Z	
22	Barr (AG)	Foods	
23	Weir	Industrials S-Z	
24	Bailey (Ben) Constr	Building,Roads	
25	Smurfit (Jeff)	Paper,Print,Adv	
26	Lec Refrigeration	Electricals	
27	WPP	Paper,Print,Adv	
28	Walker, Greenbank	Industrials S-Z	
29	General Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
30	Higgs & Hill	Building,Roads	
31	Staveley	Industrials S-Z	
32	Low (Wm)	Foods	
33	Marley	Building,Roads	
34	Travis Perkins	Building,Roads	
35	Amstrad (aa)	Electricals	
36	Gold Greenlees	Paper,Print,Adv	
37	Evered	Building,Roads	
38	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
39	Wolseley	Industrials S-Z	
40	Barrett (H)	Industrials A-D	
41	Eurotherm	Electricals	
42	TNT	Transport	
43	Lees (John J)	Foods	
44	Pendragon	Motors,Aircraft	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£4,000

Claims required for +202 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
19	870	Schroders	17	17¼	-¼	28.0	1.5	18.7
815	450	Stand Chart (aa)	563	570	-5	48.7	8.2	4.9
147	99	TSB (aa)	132	134	-2	7.7	5.8	20.2
611	470	Union Disc	545	550	● ..	44.0	8.0	29.6
525	276	Warburg SG	445	450	-10	17.7	4.0	14.1
170	98	Do 6% 'A'	145	148	●-3	8.0	5.4	..
58	33	Wells Fargo	47⅞	-	+1⅛	..	..	..
284	226	Westpac	241	245	+3	..	..	..
486	408	Wintrust	400	415	● ..	10.8	2.6	12.8

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
574	418	Allied-Lyons (aa)	493	495	-6	20.9	4.8	11.3
11⅛	783	Bass (aa)	920	924	-3	37.8	4.1	10.1
203	133	Boddington	138	140	-1	6.1	4.4	15.2
208	135	Bulmer (H P)	172	176	..	8.5	5.4	17.9
255	190	Burtonwood Brew	212	220	-2	4.7	2.2	24.7
450	385	Clark (Matthew)	360	370	● ..	17.7	4.8	9.4
381	220	Devenish (JA)	216	223	..	6.2	2.8	15.6
132	98	[illegible]	95	99	-2			
858	428	Grand Met (aa)	550	552	●-8	23.7	4.3	11.7
379	258	Greenall Wht	315	318	-4	11.5	3.7	10.4
622	359	Greene King	353	363	-5	12.0	3.4	14.3
688	320	Guinness (aa)	649	651	+4	16.5	2.5	19.9
975	810	Hardys & Hansons	925	945	+2	37.5	4.0	13.5
261	138	Highland Dist	217	220	..	5.1	2.3	21.0
515	455	Mansfield	469	473	-2	14.2	3.0	15.1
240	169	Marston Thompson	185	190	..	4.7	2.5	19.2
690	324	Morland	380	408	s ..	13.7	3.5	12.3
736	283	SA Breweries	530	550	..			
449	284	Scot & New (aa)	290	292	-6	16.2	5.6	12.6
349	245	Vaux Group	245	250	-1	10.5	4.2	13.3
427	299	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	372	374	-4	17.5	4.7	12.3
12⅛	800	Do 'B'	12⅛	13⅛	..	17.5	1.4	41.8
404	385	Wolverhampton & D	385	390	..	10.9	2.8	13.1
536	475	Young 'A'	475	495	..	14.7	3.0	29.0

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
450	71	Emess	70	73	..	4.1	5.7	7.6
398	238	Eurotherm	292	302	●+3	8.4	2.8	11.3
185	56	FKI (aa)	64	66	+4	7.3	11.2	3.4
187	118	Farnell Elect	145	150	-2	6.0	4.1	11.0
113⅛	26	Ferranti (aa)	39	41	+⅛	.. ●	..	..
12⅛	7⅛	Ferranti Hldgs	8⅛	8⅛	-⅛	..	..	..
520	378	First Tech	465	480	-12	10.7	2.3	18.6
62	38	Forward Tech	40	43	-1	2.4	5.7	7.1
261	187	GEC (aa)	208	210	●-4	10.9	5.2	19.9
810	354	Harland Simon	675	705	-10	6.0	0.8	29.6
91	70	Highland Elect	68	77	-1	4.4	6.2	8.0
572	243	Hoskyns Gp	345	353	s-5	2.8	0.8	29.2
275	210	Jones Stroud	222	242	●+2	10.7b	4.6	9.7
220	125	Kode	128	138	..	10.0	7.5	..
380	240	Lec Refrigeration	310	330	+5	19.3	6.0	6.8
97	57	Life Sciences	85	88	-1	3.1	3.6	14.0
411	301	Logica	313	320	-2	4.1	1.2	15.3
296	218	Macro 4	280	285	..	12.6	4.4	15.7
202	143	Memec	152	160	..	7.1	4.6	7.8
53	15	MBS	18	22	..	..	..	..
398	213	Microfilm Repro	227	237	-5	5.0	2.2	20.9
543	143	Micro Focus	500	515	-5	..	..	28.2
259	171	Microgen	118	125	●-2	8.9	7.3	11.0

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 24

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

OVERSEAS TRADERS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

TRANSPORT

WATER

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
171	108	Thames Water	145	149	-5	19.4	13.1	3.6
198	100	Welsh Water	171	175	..	22.4	12.9	2.9
189	100	Wessex Water	167	172	-2	20.3	11.9	3.5
198	100	Yorkshire Water	173	177	-5	20.8	11.8	3.9
£1755	£1000	Package Units	£1545	..	-228	..	..	..

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data

THE TIMES

SATURDAY MARCH 10 1990

FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Lindsay Cook

INSIDE

Estate agents face ban on linked sales

By Lindsay Cook

Estate agents could face a total ban on the sale of financial services to homebuyers unless they stop high-pressure sales techniques. The warning is from Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of the Office of Fair Trading in his report on estate agency to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Sir Gordon says measures to discourage estate agents from "pressurizing" buyers into taking out mortgages and insurance policies through them should be introduced. But he said that if agents continue to force services on homebuyers, by refusing to pass on offers to the vendor unless services are taken up, a total ban on the sale of linked services by agents to buyers of homes they are selling will be considered.

He said: "Such an outcome would be highly unwelcome to the industry. But it is for the industry to prove through its future behaviour such further measures are unnecessary."

Sir Gordon said that tie-in arrangements had proved to be the most contentious matter raised in the consultation document on estate agency published last September. "Although there was dispute as to the extent of forced services, the OFT has little doubt that they exist and on a significant scale. Indeed the consultation exercise provided further evidence as to their prevalence."

He continued: "They may impose expensive, long-term and unwanted or unnecessary burdens on the purchase, and may be to the detriment of the vendor, who is not informed of all relevant bids."

The report proposes a ban on estate agents discriminating against prospective purchasers who do not buy services from them. Estate agents would also be obliged to tell clients in advance if they intended to sell services to homebuyers, and earn further commission on the transaction, and to detail what services were actually supplied. They would also be obliged to pass on all genuine offers to clients.

Estate agents who did not comply could be banned from carrying on any estate agency work. The OFT considered requiring agents to tell sellers how much they earn in commission on services sold to buyers but decided there would be difficulties because the agent may not know the amount when passing on an offer. It also felt it would not give any extra protection.

The Consumers' Association recently accused estate agents of handicapping buyers who do not use their financial services and of selling the wrong mortgages or unnecessary insurance to housebuyers to earn more commission.

Yesterday, Miss Jane Vass, research manager of the association's money group, said she was disappointed estate agents will not have to tell clients they may receive commission for services to buyers.

Building societies, insurance companies and banks have spent billions of pounds buying and building up estate agencies to sell mortgages and related products to homebuyers. A ban on linked sales would negate the main benefits of owning them.

Classic drive: Mike Crowley, chairman of Appreciating Classics, which admitted this week its projections were not accurate

Forecasts warning for BES investors

By Jon Ashworth

Investors have been warned not to rush into Business Expansion Schemes on the basis of expected profits, amid calls for a clampdown on profit forecasts. The Securities Association, which includes BES sponsors among its members, has amended its rules to help protect investors from potentially misleading forecasts. Other regulators may follow.

TSA said it is introducing the amendments to ensure investors cannot be induced into a BES investment by forecasts of realizable value or other figures or statements which may be misleading. The forecasts include plans, predictions, projections, or illustrations used to project a future value.

Mr John Spiers, editor of *BES Investment*, said the clampdown could encourage many unsponsored BES issues. These can market loans and are not restricted in profit projections.

This week, one unsponsored company admitted its projections may not be completely accurate. Appreciating Classics, which has already raised almost £150,000 under the BES, has made projections in its prospectus and an accompanying leaflet. It stresses these are for illustrative purposes only and carries several risk warnings. But Mr Ken Ward, a director, said the projections could be wrong and a discrepancy was found after the issue opened.

Appreciating Classics is seeking up to £500,000 under the BES before April 5 towards buying and restoring classic cars. Mr Michael Crowley, the chairman, said: "We will be actively trading in the five years, and trading profits should cover overheads." The launch cost is £21,200, including legal and accountants' fees. Mr Crowley and Mr Ward will draw an annual salary of £24,000 each, and an annual fee of 5 per cent of the increase in revalued net assets, payable in arrears. They have each invested £20,000.

Abbey pensions rethink

By Barbara Ellis

Overgenerous pension quotations made by Abbey Life in the last 18 months may have persuaded many investors to stay with it, passing up better opportunities elsewhere, says the actuary who spotted one of the mistakes.

Abbey Life this week suspended benefit projections on existing policies and yesterday sent officers of the company to meet regulators at the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation.

An Abbey Life spokesman said that the meeting was to discuss Lautro's rule on projecting benefits, which he said was open to a number of interpretations.

Mr Douglas Townley, the actuary, a member of the Financial Intermediaries Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association in Bolton, Lancashire, specializes in small, self-administered pension schemes. As part of this work, he advises customers on whether to continue existing policies or transfer to others.

He bases his recommendation on figures supplied by the insurance company, estimating what the policy will be worth when the holder retires.

Checking quotations from Abbey Life last December, he found that using what was supposedly Lautro's calculation with standard industry costs, the company came up with a figure of £45,000 for the value of the fund in 15 years.

But later using the charges and expenses that would actually apply, Abbey Life said that the same fund would be worth £20,000.

"It obviously was lunatic," said Mr Townley. "They were quoting £45,000 on the Lautro basis but only expecting to pay out £20,000."

After some discussion and correspondence, Mr Townley said Abbey Life acknowledged that it had misinterpreted Lautro's rules and not taken account of the charges on initial capital units which reduced the end-value of the policy. The £45,000 quote was revised to £18,000 and then changed to £20,000.

M&S ends interest-free period for charge cards

Marks and Spencer is to scrap the interest-free period on its charge card for customers who do not pay their bills in full each month. The 2.6 million cardholders will be told of the change, which comes into effect on April 9, with their March statement.

The move follows the implementation of a £12 a year fee by Lloyds Bank in February for its Access cardholders. Other card issuers are concerned about the cost of lending money to customers who pay nothing in fees for the use of their card and do not incur interest.

In the case of Marks and Spencer these are the majority of the customers with more than 50 per cent of customers clearing their bills each month. These will not be affected by the change as there will be no cut in their interest free credit of up to 56 days.

Those who borrow who currently are charged interest on their statement date will now pay it from the day of the purchase with the card. They can reduce the rate they pay from 34.4 per cent to 29. 8 per cent by using the direct debit payment facility. But this does take the monthly payments from bank accounts 15 days before they are due.

About 16 per cent of M&S sales are via the charge card, which was launched five years ago.

Prudential lost appeal means 'all risks' review

A victory for a businessman in the Court of Appeal this week against Prudential Assurance could lead insurers to add more exclusions to policies.

Mr Mustafa Sofi of London will now be paid £43,175 which he claimed after jewellery and luggage was stolen from his car when it was left at Dover Castle four years ago. The jewellery had been locked in the glove compartment but the insurance company had claimed that it was not liable to compensate him under his "all risks" home contents policy or his travel insurance because he had not taken "reasonable steps" to safeguard the insured items.

A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said the case set a precedent.

"It is likely to lead to more exclusions of specific events such as leaving valuables in unattended motor vehicles. These will be spelt out in policy documents so that policyholders are under no illusions as to when their property is covered and when it is not.

"The alternative will be for companies to charge a higher rate for specified expensive items taken on holiday such as cameras," he added.

But he said it was too late for any changes to be implemented for this year's holiday policies, which are already on sale.

FAMILY MONEY

Just an annual snapshot

Barbara Ellis takes the latest Abbey National report and accounts to task

Judging a company from its annual report is rather like picking a job candidate on the basis of a flattering photograph and a carefully composed *curriculum vitae* alone.

The information presented has definite limitations, as 4.1 million Abbey National shareholders are about to find out for the first time.

Abbey has chosen to send out the full version of its report, combining a mostly large-print, simplified section which has won a plain English award and an accounts section which has not.

What most investors want to know about shares is what sort of dividend they will pay and whether the price will be going up or down.

A dividend is fact — 5.7p per share from Abbey — but as it is illegal for companies to promote their own shares, future prices have to be guessed at from pointers scattered through the report.

Signs of growth should eventually lead to a higher share price, but only if the company spends wisely. Abbey handily breaks out some key business facts which supply a few clues.

The company raised £965 million from its share offer and its operating expenses came to 45.2 per cent of total operating income.

The report also records non-banking losses: £16 million on the £45 million turnover at estate agencies and £1 million on the £25 million turnover of Abbey National Homes.

On future activities, the directors talk of strengthening the company's position in the savings and home loans markets and expanding personal financial services.

For analysts like Mr David Poutney of James Capel, the broker, these basic facts indicate some dangers. With close to £1 billion cash from its float, Abbey National has to avoid a TSB-style spending binge leaving it with loss-makers. He notes with approval it has spent £35 million upgrading branches.

"A weakness is that it is effectively a one-product company — it needs to diversify," he said. But the low cost/income ratio of 45.2 per cent is good news compared with the average for other banks of 65 per cent. This means for every pound earned by Abbey National, 45p goes in expenses, against 65p at the average bank. Bank of Scotland, reckoned to be the most efficient, is at 55p and TSB last at 75p.

Mr Andrew Dennis, an analyst with Chase Manhattan, the merchant bank, contrasts Abbey's "clean" balance sheet with those of the big four high street banks, meaning it is free of Third World debt provisions.

Despite the chatty tone of its report, Abbey has become more selective in the information it gives this year, keeping back some for analysts as companies usually do.

Last year, for example, it gave full figures on mortgage arrears: 13,893 mortgages were more than three months in arrears, valued at £21 million or 0.08 per cent of the mortgage book. Repossessed properties totalled 1,696.

But this year, the annual report said: "A doubling of interest rates has meant the number of people that have difficulty meeting their mortgages has increased. But the increase at Abbey National has been moderate."

The Abbey told analysts privately that properties repossessed had risen from 1,696 at the end of 1988 to 1,724 at the end of 1989.

An Abbey National spokesman told Family Money that the number of mortgages in arrears by more than three months had risen to 16,000, worth £30 million, or 0.095 per cent of the mortgage book.

"An annual report is only ever a snapshot," said Mr Poutney, "You can't buy the past, only the future."

Cashing in on separate taxation

A cash unit trust giving investors a monthly interest statement will be launched by Gartmore Fund Managers on Monday in preparation for independent taxation, which comes into force next month (Lindsay Cook writes).

CashTrust will invest in accounts with the major banks, and, although basic rate tax will be deducted from the dividends, it can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers.

The estimated gross yield for the fund is 15.05 per cent, which is equivalent to 14.1 per cent for non-taxpayers after the annual charge is deducted. The return would currently work out at 10.58 per cent for basic rate taxpayers, but will vary with interest rates.

Like other cash funds, the high return is available on investments of £500 and there is no initial charge. Investors will receive a monthly statement showing the interest accumulated in that month, which can then be used by non-taxpayers to reclaim tax.

Under independent taxation, which comes into force on April 6, married women will have their own tax allowance, and, for the first time, will be able to use it against income from savings. This will mean that married women who do not go out to work and are non-taxpayers will be able to claim back tax deducted from unit trust income.

However, where their savings are in a bank or a building society, married women will not be able to reclaim tax deducted, because this is deducted in the form of composite rate tax (CRT), which cannot be reclaimed.

There is a growing campaign from building societies and banks for CRT to be scrapped in the Budget.

The societies fear that funds will flood out of their accounts to unit trusts and offshore companies and they want CRT replaced by deduction of basic rate tax.

Existing Gartmore investors will be able to use the CashCall service to make transfers from other unit trusts into the CashTrust, and when they return to equity investment they will receive a 4 per cent discount.

There have, so far, been surprisingly few UK authorized unit trusts launched to take advantage of independent taxation, although there are a number of offshore funds, which deduct no tax.

Mr Peter Pearson Lund, managing director of Gartmore Fund Managers, said: "The world has very much woken up to separate taxation. It is a shame that the unit trust industry has not. The vast majority of building society investors will be reluctant to put their money offshore."

The first cash fund, by Fidelity, stands at £40 million. Fidelity's Miss Mary Blair said: "It has grown quite rapidly in the last three months, with quite a lot of money coming via accountants, who are not a normal source of funds."

Cash funds are likely to take a while to catch on, she believes. Midland Bank, the Savings Corporation and Providence Capitol have already launched UK authorized money unit trusts.

Suited for sophisticated Sid

By Rodney Hobson

The great wider share ownership campaign is set to end. If a Stock Exchange committee gets its way, future emphasis will be on deeper share ownership; Sids will grow in sophistication, not numbers. The aim is to make the issuing of shares cheaper, faster and more flexible. The proposed changes will give advantages to private investors who have a steady relationship with their brokers.

The plans have been given a favourable viewing by the Stock Exchange Council and the report has been sent to brokers and other interested parties for comment over the next two months. After that, new regulations will be drawn up.

The proposals would give a three tier system for new issues. These would allow companies making a new issue of shares to choose whether to place them with favoured investors or offer them to the general public.

Small issues — the committee suggests up to £10 million — could be placed in their entirety with existing clients of brokers, with no obligation to offer any to the public. Medium-sized issues — between £10 and £20 million — could be split, with the excess of more than £10 million offered publicly or placed through all exchange members.

For larger issues, up to half the shares could be placed. Companies currently seeking a full stock market listing can place up to £15 million worth of shares. For the USM, the limit is £5 million. The key factor in the scheme is the new concept of an "intermediaries offer," a kind of halfway house between a placing and a general offer. Brokers will apply for shares on behalf of clients. Banks and building societies will also be encouraged to participate, but those who run an active portfolio will stand most chance of an allocation.

Mr Graham Ross Russell, the committee chairman, said: "I would like to see every high street bank branch having someone who can advise on stock exchange matters."

The advantage of placing shares or offering them through brokers is that the process is quicker. That means there is less chance of a stockmarket surge or collapse between fixing the offer price and the closing date for applications. Underwriting costs could be cut because speed reduces risks.

Share offers by companies seeking a stock market listing cannot be seen as the main vehicle for taking the process of wider share ownership much further now the privatization programme is largely complete, the committee reports. If shareholdings are to be spread more widely, that will have to come through trading on the stock market itself.

Mr Ross Russell added: "So many of the 11 million shareholders don't know what a stockbroker is. We need to reduce the mystique that surrounds stockbrokers. What we need now is not wider share ownership, but deeper share ownership."

He does make one concession to unsophisticated Sid, though. The requirement that the full prospectus must be published in two national newspapers would go.

Companies would be expected to use the cash saved to print mini-prospectuses in a wider range of newspapers. Companies would be able to print the share application coupons, so beloved by Sid, more widely, Mr Ross Russell believes.

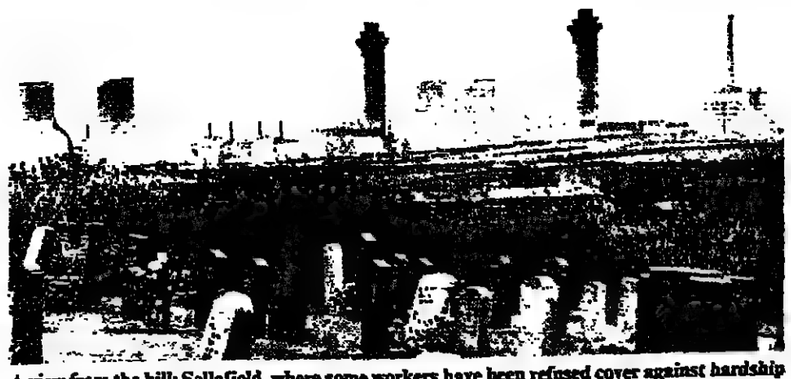
The report was welcomed by Mr Edgar Palamountain, chairman of the Wider Share Ownership council. He said: "They are a contribution to reducing the complication and expense of new issues. That is obviously to the advantage of all shareholders, whether institutional or private."

Mr Palamountain said the impression that small or private investors were concerned mainly with new issues had been fostered by the privatization campaign, but wider share ownership could also come through trading on the Stock Exchange itself.

FAMILY MONEY

BNF cover fallout

Jill Insley discovers that many nuclear workers are refused insurance



A view from the hill: Sellafield, where some workers have been refused cover against hardship

Some employees of British Nuclear Fuels and their families have been excluded by several insurance companies from cover against financial hardship if they develop a disabling or critical illness like cancer.

Several insurance companies have decided it is too risky to insure some Sellafield and other nuclear workers through their "dread disease" policies. These pay out a lump sum on the diagnosis of a critical illness, such as cancer, heart attack, coronary heart disease, stroke, kidney failure and illnesses requiring an organ transplant. Some policies also insure the policyholder against multiple sclerosis and paralysis through disease or accident.

Abbey Life, Cannon Lincoln, Legal and General, and General Accident, all say they would refuse to insure some BNF employees against dread disease.

Mr Peter Baxter, Abbey Life product marketing manager, said it would give each application individual consideration: "There would be jobs that we would accept and jobs that we would not," he said.

The acceptable jobs are largely desk and clerical jobs, unacceptable ones include working directly with nuclear materials.

Legal and General have a similar attitude. Mr Dennis Smith, protection marketing manager says L&G would probably make more strenuous checks on a person working for BNF. "If someone was handling a toxic substance day by day we would probably decline the case."

However, reinsurance companies who take on some of the risk for insurance companies are less pessimistic about the chances of BNF employees developing cancer. Mr Tony O'Leary, manager of UK underwriting for Victory Insurance said: "People who are involved in the nuclear fuel industry at the moment do not present a major problem."

He said Victory would look at the most recent statistics for cancer among such employees before deciding to reinsure dread disease policies or advising life companies to take on business from BNF employees.

Insurance companies are similarly unwilling to provide dread disease cover for several other occupations.

People working with asbestos and miners are considered to be at risk from cancer and various lung diseases. Deep sea divers may suffer from strokes, air bubbles in their blood systems and other problems related to compression.

North Sea oil and gas workers, steeplejacks, Northern Ireland security guards, prison officers and tunnel workers are all likely to be refused dread disease cover or to have permanent total disability cover excluded from the policy.

And even those readers who have desk jobs with no exposure to toxic substances may not be eligible for total dread disease cover if they have a penchant for some sporting activities.

Tobogganists, parachutists, white water rafters, and mountaineers are among those who are likely to be refused permanent disability cover.

The cost of 'doing a favour'

By Jon Ashworth

Head office: the building that houses SKP's operation

Three brokers have been stopped from taking on new business as part of an insurance industry clampdown after the closure of Garston Amhurst, the tied agent.

The three firms, which are appointed representatives of National Financial Management Corporation, a subsidiary of Target, the life assurance company, have been banned from entering into new business for the group.

The Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Association (Lautro), the industry watchdog, ordered National Financial not to accept new business after the three companies failed a financial audit.

They are Guardian Investments of St John's Road, Glasgow; Ideal Nippy trading as SKP Financial Services, of Camden Road, north London, and UK Alliance Financial Management of Matthew Street, Liverpool.

Lautro ordered NFMC to audit all its 88 appointed representatives by March and to carry out a compliance inspection by May 1. Garston Amhurst, with offices in London and Bristol was closed in January when the Securities and Investments Board obtained a High Court order to appoint the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator. Although only authorized to sell NFMC products — like all tied representatives — Garston Amhurst had sold other investments.

Mr Joe Ritchie, a director of UK Alliance Financial Management, said he failed the audit on a minor point. He said he had done some friends a favour. "I cleared a couple of cheques through my secondary account, but no investment money was involved. If I have a spare account and decide to help someone as a favour, that's my business."

"There is a slight smell of possibly a witch-hunt here. Lautro has got a job to do, but I've been told: 'You're guilty — prove yourself innocent' — it creates a bad image."

Lautro said a drive to clean up its members was planned last October. "It is now a rule requirement that all our members will have to do proper checks on controllers, managers and the like," a spokesman said. "Garston Amhurst has been a lesson to them all, and we are spelling out the need to check management."

In the past, members have looked at the credit records of tied agents without checking their backgrounds. Under the new rules, members will have to tell Lautro if an appointed representative has ever been charged with fraud.

FAMILY MONEY

Sara McConnell finds differing views on the idea of competence tests

The high-powered consultants – with four days' experience

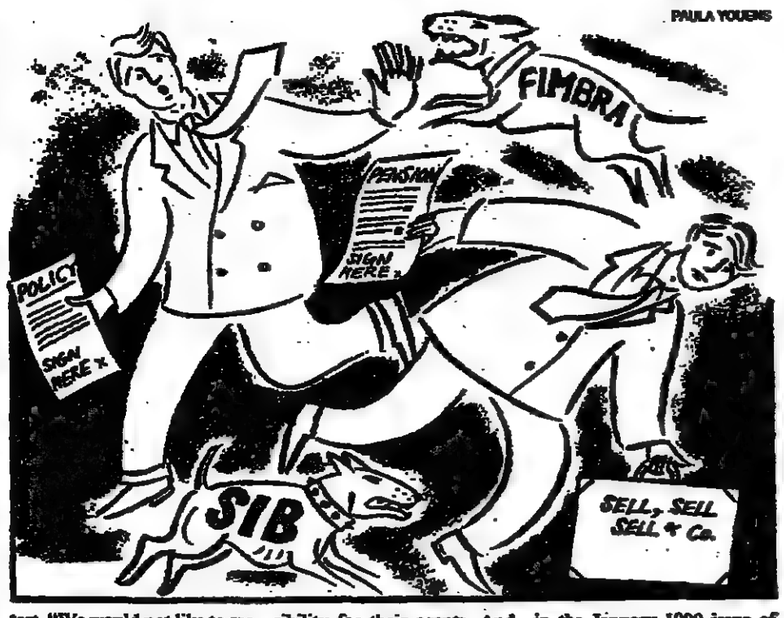
Anyone buying an insurance policy from a salesman calling himself a "financial consultant" or "financial adviser" should not be fooled by the impressive sounding title into thinking the salesman is professionally qualified.

At present there is no *requirement for insurance* salesman to have any formal training, whether they are independent, selling insurance policies from a range of companies or tied, selling one company's policies.

This also applies to estate agents selling endowment policies to cover mortgages or building society or bank employees selling life assurance or pensions. Any knowledge of insurance policies, tax laws and other legislation has to be picked up on the job or during in-house training, whose quality and quantity varies widely from company to company.

But this could change next month when the Securities and Investments Board, the insurance watchdog, publishes a report on education and training for salesman. It looks likely to recommend that anyone selling investment products to the public must have passed a basic minimum competence test.

Members of the public, particularly those who have been badly advised and pushed into buying unsuitable insurance policies, may feel this is long overdue. But the Office of Fair Trading is continuing to oppose any move towards compulsory competence testing on the grounds that it would be anti-competitive to force would-be financial advisers to take a test. "We would not like to see tests of competence restricting entry to the industry," said an OFT spokesman. But the OFT may back down and is prepared to consider a competence test that is not too difficult.



The Consumers' Association is also doubtful about the need for what will probably be too basic a test to have any real value.

"We are not convinced that compulsory competence testing is a necessity," said Miss Jane Vass, research manager of the money group at the Consumers' Association. "We want to see insurance companies taking greater responsibility for their agents. And having a qualification does not necessarily mean good practice."

But the Consumers' Association is still concerned about the training offered by some life companies, building societies and banks. Large institutions have so far resisted pressure for a compulsory competence test to be taken by all salesman, preferring to offer their own. The Consumers Association found that some salesmen were allowed to sell investment products to the public after only four days' training which concentrated mostly on selling techniques.

Two investigators reported in the January 1990 issue of *Which?*, the Consumers Association magazine, that "it was possible to be let loose on the public as advisers with minimal knowledge of the Financial Services Act or of the different financial products. The name of the game was clearly sell, sell, sell."

Insurance companies are responsible for the competence of their agents but some offer hardly any training at all while others take training seriously. Norwich Union has recently announced that it expects all its company representatives to have passed the Chartered Insurance Institute's Financial Planning Certificate, a qualification which Mr Nick Hindley, sales development consultant at the Norwich Union described as "the most basic qualification anyone involved with financial services should have."

Others such as Allied Dunbar and Equitable Life have in-house training courses but training of company representatives is generally patchy.

Independent financial advisers are not allowed to sell investments under the Financial Services Act unless they have been authorized as "fit and proper" by the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) or the Insurance Brokers Regulation Council (IBRC). But "fit and proper" does not include passing a competence test.

"A competence test would be in addition to our already stringent vetting procedure," said a Fimbra spokesman. It is pushing for a compulsory competence test for all salesmen – tied or independent.

Some insurance salesmen already have a qualification from a training body such as the Chartered Insurance Institute, the Life Insurance Association or the College for Financial Planning.

"You might strike lucky and find someone with the right qualifications. It is not enough for someone to say they are Fimbra-registered," said Mr John Ellis, director of communications at the Life Insurance Association. "We have had complaints of customers being offered unsuitable products which, for example, left them paying tax they would not otherwise be liable for."

DSS bends the rules for victims of PAYE pirates

By Barbara Ellis

Companies that fail to pass on tax and National Insurance to the Inland Revenue and the Department of Social Security could cause temporary difficulties for employees.

But directors can face at the least a hefty bill for past contributions and at worst disqualification and prison.

Findings which led the National Audit Office to qualify the accounts of the DSS last week indicate a substantial backlog of National Insurance returns awaiting clearance or investigation because they appear incomplete, incorrect or inconsistent with earnings.

Under cover of this paper jam, a number of companies have been able simply to keep the deductions made from employees' pay for PAYE and National Insurance.

Sometimes employees learn of missing contributions only by being refused unemployment benefit after the company has collapsed.

The DSS said it would treat workers as having paid the correct contributions for their salary so long as they could prove they had been led to believe payments were being made. A pay slip would be the best proof, but a signed statement from the employee might also be acceptable.

As establishing proof could take time, the spokesman suggested that employees might be able to claim benefits not based on a contribution record, such as income support. This would not help married women whose husbands' earnings took the couple above the qualifying income level.

The Inland Revenue said employees should not be penalized. If they were felt to be acting in good faith and were not in collusion with the company they would be given credit for the tax owing. Pay slips, a P45 or a letter from a liquidator would be among items accepted as proof.

Employers have 19 days after the end of each tax month in which to pass on PAYE to the Inland Revenue. Tax months run from the sixth to the fifth of the calendar months. National Insurance has to be paid over to the DSS also within 19 days.

In practice though, by ignoring reminders companies can spin out non-payment for between 10 and 12 months, according to Mr Paul Scott of Leonard Curtis, the accountant, which specializes in rag trade liquidations.

FAMILY MONEY

Jon Ashworth on a move that will not make bank accounts healthier

Price rises pinch health tax perk for the over-60s

Private medical insurers are preparing for April 6, when anyone aged over 60 will be able to claim tax relief on their health insurance. The change could shave £100 or more off the cost of annual premiums, but the growing expense of private health insurance makes the incentive look less attractive.

BUPA is waiting for final Inland Revenue approval for its plans, which will save tax for its 200,000 plus customers aged over 60 on its books. Private Patients Plan (PPP), which has 160,000 customers aged 60 or more, has two plans aimed at the elderly market, while Western Provident Association (WPA), the third largest provider, has completely revamped its range of products.

Five years ago, a 62 year-old single person on BUPA's general scale faced an annual bill of £225.72. From next month, even with 25 per cent tax relief, the same premium will be more than £290. Without relief, it would be £387.

A BUPA spokesman said the cost of premiums had been rising by about 10 per cent a year. An information centre was launched six weeks ago to help elderly customers with any tax queries. The tax relief will be deducted at source, like the Miras system which deducts relief from mortgage payments. WPA, which is launching its "New Deal for the Nineties" range next month, has replaced scales with names like Oak and Cedar, and uses postcodes as a guide to pricing.

In many cases, it will pay the full cost of the treatment instead of fixed amounts.

"We felt health insurance was looking too complicated," said Miss Fiona Debling, the marketing manager. "We have tried to get away from the jungle of rates and scales, and are pitching ourselves at younger people. We feel we have to offer tax relief plans, although we are not sure how many people will take them."

Easing the pain: the tax relief will help, but the higher cost of insurance premiums will hurt

Credit is a young man's game

By Lindsay Cook

A survey carried out by the Halifax Building Society questioned retired people and those coming up to retirement about their attitudes to money and saving and found that the majority would not borrow if they needed money for an unexpected expense.

More than 60 per cent said that borrowing was "completely out of the question" with the elderly retired coming out most strongly against credit, feeling they could not afford the repayments and disapproved of borrowing.

Only 10 per cent said they would be happy to borrow if it was for something they really wanted.

The pre-retireds are most willing to borrow for essentials or in an emergency with 42 per cent saying they would, compared with 29 per cent for early retired and 21 per cent for elderly retired.

The greatest proportion of people not prepared to borrow money are in the North at 68 per cent.

TR turned off the Japanese market

A Far East fund launched today by Touche Remnant will not invest at all in Japan. The first new unit trust from the group in two years will invest in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines and Indonesia (writes Lindsay Cook).

The fund is targeted at experienced investors who have sufficient capital available for more aggressive investment and should aim to stay in the market for five to 10 years. "It is certainly not for widows and orphans," said Mr John Gittings, managing director of Touche Remnant Unit Trust Management.

"We think the time is right for the Pacific markets. They could be the Japan of the 90sand we aim to have an actively-managed portfolio. Thailand was not available until last autumn and Korea and Taiwan are still not properly open to investors.

"This is not a sensible market for a conservative or income-oriented investor. There are plenty of health and wealth warnings attached as some of the individual markets are very volatile, he added.

Mr Gittings said it should not account for more than a 5 to 10 per cent of an investor's portfolio and because of this the minimum investment is £500. This will allow an investor with £10,000 a modest holding in the Pacific markets.

The new fund will be managed by Mr Michael Watt, who also manages TR Pacific Investment Trust. Over the two years to December 31 it was up 210 per cent. The initial charge on the new fund is 5.25 per cent and the annual charge is 1.5 per cent.

Lloyd's panel beater

A direct insurance service was launched by Lloyd's of London this week (writes Jon Ashworth). Motor Line Plus, Lloyd's' first push into direct-response motor insurance, uses a panel of 10 syndicates to improve choice. As the insurance is provided by Lloyd's it should be possible to insure most drivers, unlike other direct insurers who carry exclusions to keep costs down.

The scheme will be run from Bradford by Baillie Longstaff, a specialist insurance broker, which has used the panel approach before. Mr Jeremy Coulter, chairman of Baillie Longstaff, said: "We have spent the last two or three years developing this panel approach on behalf of our clients, and we were asked to do the same for some Lloyd's motor syndicates."

Motor Line Plus is available from 8.30am to 8pm weekdays, and 10am to 5pm at the weekend on 0274 621888.

FAMILY MONEY

Barbara Ellis says managers are trying to win salesmen with higher commission

Pep goes out of mortgage sales

When personal equity plans were first introduced as a means of paying off mortgages a year ago, they were promoted as a powerful alternative to endowment policies.

The reasoning was that since Pep mortgages were cheaper and more flexible for homebuyers than the insurance route, they could not fail to be recommended by independent sales people claiming to give "best advice."

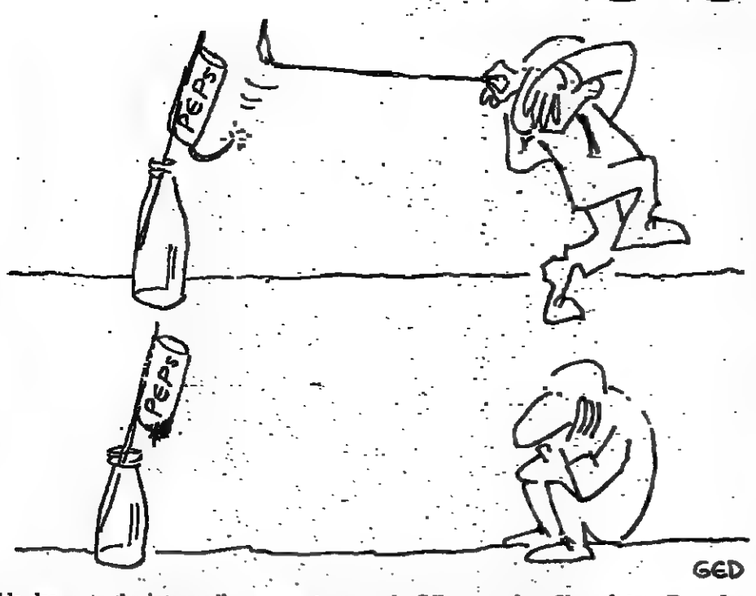
Since then, however, very few Pep mortgages have been sold. In a flat housing market, some Pep managers have latterly been trying to woo salesmen by matching the fat commission available on endowments — sometimes to the disadvantage of homebuyers.

Norwich Union's Pep mortgage launched last week can invest either a minimum of £50 a month in the company's UK Equity Income Trust or a £200-a-month minimum in a portfolio of shares chosen by the company.

To repay a £60,000 loan over 25 years, a 29-year-old man would need to pay £56 a month into the Norwich Union unit trust Pep, paying another £13.80 for level-term assurance.

The salesman would collect £64.43 "indemnity" commission up front for selling the Pep, covering the first four years, then £20.16 annually. For selling the term assurance, he would pick up another £185.25 at the outset and £4 a year after two years. This total front-end commission of £250 compares with roughly £600 payable for selling an endowment.

Mr Martin Campbell, of Norwich Union said: "We have tried to put together a package we feel is fair to the client but caters to a reasonable degree to the intermediaries' needs."



He stressed that all the homebuyer's money would go into the Pep immediately — apart from the 6 per cent initial charge on the unit trust. The annual management charge is 1 per cent.

With Sun Life, however, the monthly payment on a £60,000 mortgage Pep is £65.98, but it is 14 months before any money goes into the plan.

Mr Keith Middleton explained that in effect the salesman gets the first six months' payments as commission of £396, while the company keeps the other £528.

Sun Life promises to return the full £933 paid in during the first 14 months as a loyalty bonus, but only when enough money to repay the full mortgage has accumulated in the plan.

Dominion Investment also has a "non-investment" period of roughly nine months, clearly flagged in its literature, according to the firm's Mr Simon Pannett.

The investor pays £58.90 towards a £60,000 Pep mortgage but in the first year the salesman can take £400 of that. However, salesmen can also choose to take no commission or just 3 per cent from Dominion and give the investor a shorter time without investment.

Norwich Union, Sun Life and Dominion all offer a Pep only, expecting the homebuyer to take out an interest-only loan elsewhere.

Morgan Grenfell originally offered a package deal consisting of its unit trust Pep, a loan and term assurance, but found that salesmen insisted on taking just the Pep — without the non-commission insurance from MLA that Morgan Grenfell was offering. Now, the bank provides the Pep only.

Although Morgan Grenfell had more than 1,000 inquiries in the week after announcing its Pep mortgage last March, it has since sold just 250 at an average of £60,000 each, totalling £15 million.

A Morgan Grenfell Pep mortgage takes payments of either £55.20 a month using the 10.5 per cent growth assumption required by most lenders or £37.80 using the 13 per cent a few allow. As well as unit trust charges of 5.25 per cent initially and 1.25 per cent annually, plan holders pay a 0.5 per cent annual Pep charge. Salesmen collect just the routine unit trust commission of 3 per cent, paid half-yearly in arrears.

NEL Britannia's main Pep mortgage package invests £40 a month in a MIM Britannia TaxeAxe unit trust, assuming 13 per cent annual growth to reach just over £60,000 after 25 years.

It includes term assurance which would cost a man of 29 £14.71 and permanent health assurance of £10.26. Salesmen get nothing on the term assurance or PHI and just 3 per cent plus 0.5 per cent renewal commission on the unit trust.

The Bradford & Bingley Building Society sells a branded Pep mortgage only through its own branches. Mr Mark Gerdis, Pep manager, said: "There's no meat in Peps for commission to intermediaries." The society will supply an interest-only loan as part of a Pep package, charging its normal mortgage rate.

The monthly Pep payment on a £60,000 mortgage is £55. The Bradford & Bingley takes £1.92 out of that and also makes a 0.5 per cent annual charge on the plan.

The money goes into a James Capel unit trust at a negotiated price — the bid price plus 2 per cent brokerage — which is lower than the usual offer price investors pay. James Capel's annual charge on the unit trusts is 1.25 per cent.

The Bradford & Bingley has sold about 1,000 plans at an average of £47,000. Mr Gerdis said that the typical Pep mortgagor is a 35-year-old professional man living in the South-east, contrasting sharply with the 55-year-old Northern housewives who hold most of the society's Peps purely as investments.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 25).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+7	+1	+1	+4	+5		
2	+5	+2	+3	+2	+6		
3	+6	+3	+3	+3	+9		
4	+8	+2	+1	+5	+5		
5	+6	+2	+2	+2	+9		
6	+4	+1	+5	+3	+7		
7	+8	+5	+1	+5	+5		
8	+6	+2	+1	+5	+6		
9	+6	+4	+2	+4	+9		
10	+8	+5	+1	+6	+5		
11	+7	+5	+1	+5	+4		
12	+7	+5	+1	+3	+7		
13	+7	+6	+1	+5	+3		
14	+4	+3	+3	+2	+8		
15	+7	+2	+1	+4	+7		
16	+5	+2	+1	+3	+6		
17	+8	+1	+1	+5	+5		
18	+6	+2	+2	+4	+8		
19	+4	+1	+5	+3	+8		
20	+7	+1	+2	+4	+6		
21	+5	+2	+2	+4	+8		
22	+4	+2	+4	+1	+7		
23	+7	+5	+3	+5	+3		
24	+3	+1	+3	+2	+6		
25	+7	+1	+1	+3	+5		
26	+7	+2	+3	+2	+7		
27	+7	+6	+1	+6	+4		
28	+4	+2	+3	+2	+6		
29	+8	+1	+1	+3	+7		
30	+4	+2	+4	+1	+6		
31	+7	+5	+2	+3	+7		
32	+5	+2	+3	+3	+7		
33	+7	+5	+2	+4	+4		
34	+8	+1	+1	+4	+5		
35	+7	+1	+2	+4	+7		
36	+7	+4	+2	+5	+4		
37	+5	+3	+5	+2	+5		
38	+6	+5	+1	+4	+3		
39	+5	+5	+2	+3	+7		
40	+7	+5	+1	+4	+3		
41	+8	+1	+2	+3	+5		
42	+6	+2	+3	+2	+8		
43	+7	+5	+1	+5	+4		
44	+4	+3	+3	+1	+8		

LETTERS

Our regret over charity unease

From Mr Michael Brophy

Sir, I am writing to express my regret that, as reported in your columns on February 17, we have caused charities a lot of unease in our attempts to get the Give-As-You-Earn Payroll Deduction Scheme on a sound footing.

For the record and for their ease of mind, we are now modifying the proposals which have been the main cause of their concern as follows:

We will continue as now to charge 5 per cent on the majority of donations with a minimum charge of 25p per month and a maximum of £2. The latter will still be the maximum even if the Chancellor introduces a new £1,200 ceiling in his Budget statement.

There will, therefore, be no attempt on our part to introduce a minimum donation level of £5 per month.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BROPHY,
Charities Aid Foundation,
48 Pembury Road,
Tonbridge, Kent.

Where is fairness in being doubly penalized?

Sir, Your readers will have been amused by Mr Durrant's account of his recent encounter with the Community Charge.

There seems no end to the eccentricities and anomalies of the Charge and its application. My own experience, unfortunately, will prove more costly.

As a consequence of my mother's death last year, I am the owner of a flat in south-east Essex. The flat is in a purpose-built development for retired people, and has so far proved impossible to sell. It is empty and attracts no rates.

However, from April 1, I will be required to pay a full Community Charge. More distressingly, if it is still unsold by the end of June, I will be required to pay a double Community Charge therefrom.

As I understand it, the Government's case for the Community Charge is that it is fairer, and that democratic accountability will be enhanced if all voters have to contribute to the Local Authority services they use. It is difficult to see why someone who has no vote and uses no services should be doubly penalized for being the owner of an empty property that cannot be sold.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC WILLCOCKS,
12 Forestholme Close, SE23.

Choose the wrong pension plan and you could end up with a small fortune.

In a survey carried out recently by a leading financial magazine, an Equitable Life with-profits personal pension was found to be significantly more profitable than most.

For example, had you retired on 1st April 1989 aged 65, you would have been 48% better off with one of our 20 year with-profits regular contribution personal pensions compared with the worst performer.*

But this is just one example of our success.

More important is our track record of consistently excellent investment performance.

Since 1974 the authoritative financial journal Planned Savings has surveyed the performance of regular contribution with-profits personal pension plans over 10, 15 and 20 year terms.

Out of 29 tables published The Equitable Life has been top in 14 and 2nd in a further 7.

The Equitable

£65,152

Average

£57,838

Worst Company

£43,776

Personal pension fund from 20 year with-profits policy, annual contribution of £500 as published by Planned Savings July 1989. Figures refer to a self-employed man aged 65 retiring 1 April 1989.

Source: Planned Savings July 1989.

What is responsible for this happy state of affairs?

One reason is that we keep a tighter rein on costs than any of our rivals. Indeed, our ratio of expenses to premium income is the lowest of any life assurance company in Britain according to Money Management magazine (November 1989).

Another reason is that we refuse to pay commission to brokers or other middlemen for recommending our services.

So more of your money is available for investment.

And because The Equitable Life is a mutual society, there are no shareholders to take a slice of your profits.

Nor, unlike some other companies, do we charge for any adjustments you might want to make to your pension arrangement.

Even if you decide to retire earlier than planned, your benefits will be exactly the same as if you had chosen that date in the first place.

Careful management and administration, of course, mean nothing unless the money itself is expertly deployed on your behalf.

Fortunately, we have one of the finest investment teams in Britain, currently managing funds of over five billion pounds.

Of course, past performance is no guarantee of future success.

We know as well as anyone that future success can only come by a continued application of the principles of fairness and hard work that have served us so well over the years.

We feel confident about our future. With an Equitable Life personal pension, you can feel confident about yours.

For more information by post and by telephone, write to The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7BR, or call us direct on 0296 26226.

**Planned Savings Survey of regular contribution, 20 year, with-profits personal pensions – July 1989*

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life

Before you look to your future, look to our past.

Member of LAUTRO

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THE TIMES

REVIEW

SECTION 3

SATURDAY MARCH 10 1990

Hemingway and the Godfather

GLYNN BOYD HARTE

Time: literary Paris, March 1924. Place: the English bookshop at 12 rue de l'Odéon. Scene: the christening party for Hemingway's baby, "Bumby". Cast, from left to right: writer Gertrude Stein and her companion Alice B. Toklas, Sylvia Beach, the owner of Shakespeare and Company, Hadley Hemmingway, Ernest Hemingway, Eric "Chink" Dorman-Smith and James Joyce

Eric 'Chink' Dorman-Smith, in real life a brave soldier turned 'renegade', was the model for the archetypal hero in many of Hemingway's books. George Hill tells the poignant story of their long and remarkable friendship

It was an odd christening party that met before vespers at the little American church in the Latin Quarter of Paris, one day in March 1924. The baby's parents wore threadbare clothes but had an air of exceptional vitality and confidence. The mother was tall, auburn-haired, not strikingly beautiful but frank and gentle. The father had a wide face glowing with health and the build of a boxer, and carried himself with an almost swaggering assurance.

The godparents stood on either side of them. The godmother was a stocky Jewish woman, dressed with resolute parsimony. But she had a compelling air of authority, and ensured that her contempt for the proceedings was apparent by interrupting the minister with loud, uncomprehending questions.

The godfather was a British infantry officer, spruce, lean and gangling, with buck teeth, a pencil-line moustache and a double-barrelled name. Eric Dorman-Smith – "Chink" to his friends – was a Catholic at this Episcopalian service, and it was only because he had imposed his will on this party of strong characters that the baby was being baptized at all.

The christening of Ernest and Hadley Hemingway's first son was one of the more curious episodes in the history of literary Paris in the 1920s, that legendary era. The brusquely unmaternal godmother was Gertrude Stein. James Joyce's shy teenage son Giorgio played the organ, and the baby's middle name, Nicanor, was given in honour of a Spanish bullfighter.

Dragged unwillingly to the font by his upper-crust friend Chink, Hemingway had decreed perversely that Chink's Catholicism ruled out a Catholic ceremony, and that a Jewish ceremony was equally debarred by Gertrude Stein's origin, as well as by surgical considerations. So they had compromised on American Episcopalianism as the affiliation with the fewest dogmatic strings attached. Afterwards they toasted the infant's future with champagne and sugared almonds in Stein's flat, hung with outrageous daubs by a Spaniard called Picasso.

Chink, at the heart of the international bohemian world, was a figure as incongruous as David Niven strolling into a novel by Dostoyevsky. Most of the British officer class in the 1920s lived in a universe hermetically separate from the rootless, creative, self-destructive circle of the "lost generation".

Hemingway had a lasting admiration for his friend and repeatedly wove elements of him into his fictions over more than 30 years. But Chink's real life-story, told in full for the first time by Lavinia Greacen in a book to be published this month, is, in its way, a stranger and more poignant tale than anything the novelist made of it.

Dorman-Smith's intrigued, ironic dips into the milieu of cubism and modernism were only holidays from a stormy professional career, in which he eventually rose to exercise a brilliant and crucial role as a general in the North African battles against Rommel's panzers, only to suffer sudden exclusion and humiliation at the height of the conflict.

Deeply resentful, he retreated to his down-at-heel stately home in Ireland, and changed the "Smith" in his name back to "O'Gowan", its ancestral Irish equivalent. Always an opponent of the partition of Ireland, he became a clandestine republican partisan, allowing the IRA to train on his land and dabbling in dreams of gallant, although preferably bloodless, operations across the border.

While the once-penniless American writer went on to earn world fame and a Nobel Prize, the ex-general came to be seen by many of his former comrades as an embittered renegade. But it is arguable that he bore the penalties of failure with greater resilience than Hemingway endured the stresses of success. The two men kept in touch cordially to the end. This in itself would mark Chink out as remarkable. It was a rare achievement to survive as a long-standing friend of Ernest Hemingway. Behind that famous façade of virile staunchness there always lurked a feline impulse for betrayal. Hemingway could sustain comradeship only where his obsessively competitive nature did not sense rivalry, and where he was not chafed by a sense of obligation. Rivals and benefactors were marked out to be bullied, hurt and ridiculed.

Dangerously, the relationship began as one of hero-worship. Chink had had a hard time in the First World War, serving in the trenches from the start, being wounded and decorated more than once, and ending with a scathing contempt for the unimaginative Allied leaders who had won victory at such a price in blood. In the last months of the war he was sent, convalescent, still aged only 24, to command the British troops in Milan.

On the day the war in Italy ended, another convalescent limped into the Anglo-American Club on crutches: Hemingway, then 19 years old. All agog to see war for himself, he had signed on with the Red Cross as an ambulance driver, and had reached the north Italian front just in time to be blown up by an Austrian bomb, and machine-gunned as he courageously carried an injured man to safety.

It was a creditable exploit, and it became more creditable the way he told it. He was never one to let fact cramp a tale of his own true grit. But he recognized Chink as the genuine article: the battle-hardened professional accustomed to command, independent-minded and cultivated, yet imbued through and through with the instincts of the officer caste; a figure straight out of Kipling. He attached himself to Chink, memorized his anecdotes, studied his mannerisms, imitated his clipped tones, and made sure that they did not lose touch when they parted.

A tag that Chink mentioned in Milan stuck in the younger man's mind for the rest of his life. In *Henry IV, Part 2*, Shakespeare touchingly puts words of unaffected valour into the mouth of a feeble rapscallion being conscripted for war: "By my troth, I care not. A man can die but once. We owe God a death . . . He that dies this year is quit for the next." This was to become a sort of talisman for the writer, expressing the fortitude – "grace under pressure" – that he most admired.

In 1921, they met again in Paris, and for a few years a truly blithe friendship followed. Hemingway was married by now. Sometimes with Hadley and the baby, sometimes with Hemingway's rivals in the quest to write the Great American Novel and outface the Great American Hangover, they spent their holidays hunting, fishing, skiing, bragging, boozing, joking and philosophizing their way round Europe on a shoestring.

Hemingway would show his work in progress to Chink, who had an instinctive eye for the straightforwardness the writer was struggling to achieve, and the candour of a friend whose ambitions were not literary.

Shoulder to shoulder, Chink and Hem carried an exhausted Hadley through the snowdrifts over the St Bernard Pass. They dodged the lunging horns of the running bulls in Pamplona, on a journey which Hemingway promptly wrote up, under thin disguise, for *The Sun Also Rises*, his first major success.

They tramped through the mountains between Spain and France, staying in filthy taverns, where the Americans yielded at night to mass assaults from "the fleas that tease in the high Pyrenees", while Chink, who had learned about bugs in the trenches, sat fully dressed in a chair all night, declaring that it did not behove an officer of the Crown to submit to the enemy. In his book,

Continued overleaf

> 'He had been my best friend and then our best friend for a long time. He takes care of us'
> HEMINGWAY OF DORMAN-SMITH

THE NED SHERRIN COLUMN

Side by aside by Sondheim

Venice here I come, courtesy of the Orient Express. The lead up to my getaway was hectic. On Monday I dress-rehearsed Tom Conti as Jeffrey Bernard, chaired Stephen Sondheim's question-and-answer session at the National, and got back to the Apollo in time to see Tom enjoying his first night.

Professor Sondheim had been in avuncular, beard-tugging form in the crowded Olivier auditorium. Business is burgeoning.

Sunday in the Park with George was previewing in the Lyttelton, albeit a bit behind schedule ("it'll be better when they can see the stage"); *Into the Woods* is gearing up for the Old Vic; a new show, *Assassins*, an everyday story of eight who tried to bump off presidents of the United States, with a "highly political" book by John Weidman, rehearses for Broadway in the fall; *Merrily We Roll Along* revised for an older cast has conquered Washington and is New York-bound; a fifth musical (book by Terence McNally) waits in the wings; Sondheim's writing yet another song for Madonna in Warren Beatty's *Dick Tracy*; and, perhaps most intriguing, an idea he has had for some time for an original movie musical roughly chimes with a scheme William Goldman and Rob Reiner have been nurturing. They will go ahead together.

The audience bombarded the professor on his alleged disapproval of Lorenz Hart, his resistance to opera, his use and non-use of obscure Japanese instruments in *Pacific Overtures*, his feelings about overblown musicals and Andrew Lloyd Webber, and whether the priest song in *Sweeney Todd* is "Too Many Mornings" from *Follies* speeded up. This came as news to their composer.

Admitting that if he stole from anyone he preferred it to be himself, he quoted Lillian Hellman, once accused of finding blackmail indispensable to every plot. "Young man," she told her questioner, "I shall not sleep tonight."

But the professor showed no signs of insomnia. There were only two silly questions. Which of his own songs was his favourite? And what was he up to with Barbra Streisand? (Nothing.)

TUESDAY WAS the only day I could get down to Somerset to rescue a few things from my brother Alfred's farmhouse before he retires on Lady Day. We have been there since 1934. David Sedgman, the new man, is already ploughing up fields I walked in or worked on as a child. I had a last look at evocative acres with names like Larkswhistle, Stockwell, Ploughmeads, Copythorn and Langlands.

A catalogue advertises "Highly Attractive and Genuine Dispersal Sale of Three Tractors, Toyota Land Cruiser, Farm Machinery, implements and effects". They were lined up in the Home Field. Harrows, cultivators, scythes and sickles rubbed blades with a sheep foot-bath, two of Lampert of Somerton's finest tipping trailers and old cider barrels.

There was a group called "Bygones", now good museum fodder but mostly implements with which I can claim first-hand acquaintance from my childhood. There was the "twin-screw Cider Press c/w frame", a "Day of Mark" Apple Mill, a winnowing machine, the "Long Single Twin-Furrow Horse-Drawn Match Plough, with press wheel" with which Herbie Bown used to win ploughing matches, guiding Jolly the chestnut carthorse, or Captain Bonny or Prince (various shades of black and grey). They would return festooned with rosettes attached to the shining brasses on their polished harness.

The bean droppers, the bull tether and the hay sweep stood alongside the hay elevator, which the farm men christened "Ned" because I could not lift the bales and invariably had recourse to it.

My brother unearthed a copper plate inventory of the last Sherrin sale on my grandfather's death in 1903. Same auctioneers. Some of the bygone items appear in it, bought in then by an uncle. The bean dropper fetched six shillings, the apple mill five, and the winnowing machine three guineas. I hope Alfred does better.

TWO PIECES of unfinished business. Sally Burton writes further to illuminate Richard's rugby career.

At Oxford he spent most of his spare time "totting his way into the OUDS"; but in the RAF "... his CO was a rugby fanatic and his prowess got him out of various scrapes and into a cushy posting — education and vocational officer, RAF Compton Bassett", where "he did little else but play rugby".

Bleddwyn Williams, in his autobiography, wrote: "Had Richard's career taken a different turn he might well have played for Wales." In this connection Brook Williams always claimed that when Bleddwyn's book was taken off the shelf, it automatically fell open at the page on which Richard was mentioned so favourably. "Brook once put this to Richard, who hotly denied it. However, Richard went to the bookshelf, took out the book and, to his lasting delight, discovered that Brook was right."

And more on the *Brains Trust*. Nest Cleverdon reminds me that her husband, Douglas, "was one of the original producers at the beginning of the war — they put him in to make it reasonably 'intelligent', and Howard Thomas, then a variety producer, to make it 'amusing'. They loathed each other ... Douglas wanted Huxley with Joad as an irritant (which indeed he was).

"Thomas found Campbell ... in those days they had a luncheon at the Café Royal before the programme, and when approached about taking part Evelyn Waugh sent a telegram saying, 'Will take part provided need not meet Joad socially'. So he got no lunch."

I MET Alissandra, the latest member of the Olivier dynasty, this week. She weighed in 14 days earlier at 10lb. Along with her mother and her uncle Tarquin we viewed the picture of her grandfather as Richard III, which Korda commissioned from Dali in 1955. The great man's last West End appearance was as a holograph in *Time*.

I went on from Wildenstein's to another space musical, *Return to the Forbidden Planet* at the Cambridge, where Patrick Moore's genial face performs a similar function. The show is much more fun than *Time* and its success a blessing for the producer, Andre Ptaszynski, who suffered the cruel misfortune of seeing the Savoy Theatre gutted by fire before he could open *Thark*.

Bravely he contemplated an advertising campaign boasting "The Hottest Seats in Town" and "Not a Seat in the House".

DEREK NIMMO has launched a vicious attack on my barber, correctly tracing the royal joke he gave me last week to Joe Miller's ancient joke book, so here for Derek is the bleakest of actor jokes, which I have heard from three sources this week.

Why don't actors look out of the window in the morning?

Because, if they did, they'd have nothing to do during the afternoon.

SPIKE MILLIGAN

If I were...

Though I say it, I think Mrs Thatcher knew that if someone could solve the traffic problem, it would have to be me. I know the roads in Britain like the back of my hand. When the Press were after me in 1983 I had to. I watched horrified as my predecessor, Paul Channon, failed to solve the problem of traffic congestion. The answer was staring him in the face: *roads, roads* and *more* roads.

I realized, after the hundredth 60-mile tailback on the M25, that it just wasn't good enough. No; thanks to Nigel Lawson we had the money and thanks to Nicholas Ridley we knew we could build roads anywhere so, when I got the call from Mrs Thatcher, I was ready. Owing to a traffic jam I was late for the interview. Thank God Downing Street was clear. She said: "Cecil, you're late, I want you to be Minister of Transport." I said I was ready, provided I could get through the traffic in Parliament Square.

I had my plans ready. I asked Mr Patten to send me a map showing conservation areas, sites of Special Scientific Interest and areas of outstanding natural beauty. There were acres of it! That's why I had the confidence to spend £16 billion of taxpayers' money on 2,500 miles of new roads and improvements.

Why haven't previous ministers thought of it? Look at the Dartford Bridge. It's magnificent. Mind you, it was mooted before my time but I would have thought of it anyway.

Now, there are those who are violently opposed to my plans. Take Friends of the Earth, Fiends of the Earth. I call them; they all have motor cars. How do they expect to get from A to B without suitable roads? You can't drive over ploughed fields, but you *can* if you build a

... Cecil Parkinson

road through them. And I'm going to have *grass*, yes, grass, each side of the motorway, and before long, if you drive slowly, you'll see daisies and dandelions.

What's wrong with motor cars? I admit they have a noxious discharge, but that's the responsibility of the Department of the Environment. Will it not be a pleasant sight seeing British-made Rolls-Royces and Bentleys (which people can now afford under a Tory government) passing down my grass-verged motorways? It can only encourage the poor to become richer.

They are also against my Dover to Folkestone carriageway, carefully planned to run across the white cliffs of Dover, made famous in the Second World War by Veronica Lynn. Unfortunately it cuts through an area of outstanding natural beauty, but of what help are rare orchids and the wart biter to the flow of traffic?

Soon the magnificent Channel tunnel will be bringing foreigners, their cars and rabies to Dover; we will take them our cars and mad cow disease. They will want to go to Folkestone; they will have to, because that's where the road goes. Now, they couldn't do that with wart biters in the way. No, roads are the answer; roads, roads and more roads — and your money.

A CHILDHOOD: PAUL RAYMOND

'I was a bit of a spiv in the war; at one point I was dealing in second-hand cars'

by Ray Connolly

The first time Paul Raymond saw a naked lady he was 14 and peeping through the keyhole at his schoolteacher aunt as she undressed and got into the bath. Fifty years later his magazines, *Men Only, Razzle, Escort* and the rest, the main content of which is photographs of naked ladies, sell a total of 2.8 million copies a month throughout the world — although he admits he never sees anyone buying them either.

He was not always Paul Raymond: that was a stage name he chose for his mind-reading act. He was born Geoffrey Anthony Quinn in Liverpool in 1925, the middle of three sons of a Catholic family which broke up before he was five.

At the time his father was a haulage contractor and reasonably well off. He remembers being taken on a ferry to New Brighton by his mother and staring at the lights of a house on the front at Tranmere, which was where his father was "living with some girlfriend". He was about six at the time.

When asked by children at school where his father was, he was instructed to reply that he had gone to work abroad. In fact his father was usually to be found chatting up girls in a public house called the Bear's Paw in Liverpool. His mother wanted nothing to do with him but, being Catholic, refused a divorce. When the law was changed, he divorced her.

In the Fifties when Paul Raymond, as he had by then become, opened the Raymond Revue Bar and became famous, his father got in touch with him, after an absence of more than 20 years. He was having a hard time financially and wanted help from his successful son. He did not get any.

A few years ago, Paul Raymond received a phone call from Vienna. His father, who had been scraping by on his pension in an old people's home, had gone on a coach tour of Austria and died.

"They wanted to know if I wished to have the body brought back to England for burial. I told them that I didn't see the point, and that the best thing would be to bury him there."

The extended matriarchal family took over the role of caring for the three Quinn boys. There was his mother, a grandmother and three aunts living either together or in close proximity. They were all strong women who put a great deal of emphasis on education and two of the aunts were schoolmistresses.

Until the age of seven he was taught by nuns at private convent schools in Liverpool. Then he moved to St Francis Xavier's College where the Brothers of Christian Instruction took over, until the outbreak of war when the entire family (the three young brothers, grandmother, aunts and all) were invited to go and live with "a marvellous, kind uncle", a doctor in Glossop, Derbyshire.

Since he was a little boy Paul Raymond had a stammer (he still does) but this never stopped him being the "leader of the gang". The canon at the church the family attended in Glossop warned his mother she would have to watch him because he was wild. He does not think he was wild, but he frequently had to confess impure thoughts while in confession.

He has not been to confession for many years. "You may laugh at this but if I went I don't know what I'd have to confess. In the past five years, for instance, what have I done that has been wrong?"

Academically he was poor and always at the bottom of the class. When he was 14, the headmaster of his school in Glossop threatened him with expulsion after he had been spotted during the blackout doing some courting in a park shelter.

"The fire watchers would patrol the park and shine their torches on you. Some sneak must have told him about me."

Always distrustful of other women, neither his mother nor his legion of aunts liked the idea of him going out with girls until he had passed his exams. They would lead him astray, the aunts would tell him. But they didn't, not yet, anyway.

On the dot of his fifteenth birthday he left school. After all those school fees his mother was naturally disappointed. His brothers made better use of their education. One of them became a doctor.

His first job was as an office boy in Manchester (his mother insisted he was a "junior clerk"), but his real interest lay in the drums he had learned to play at a friend's house.

"He lived in a one-up and one-down house, and I think my mother was a bit of a snob because she didn't like me going around with someone who lived in a one-up and one-down. Anyway, we formed a little band and would play at local dances."

Crazy about dance bands on the radio, he had always wanted a career in some branch of show business and quickly gave up being an office boy at 12s 6d a week when he found he could earn £1 a night in a dance band.

His family was scandalized. It would not have been too bad if he had played the violin, but "a common drummer", as his grandmother called him, was beyond the pale. Little did they know what was to come.

"I thank God I wasn't all that good as a drummer, because if I had been I'd probably still have been playing the things."

The war years were memorable for him in that he was "a bit of a spiv. You could always get by. There was always a little bit of black market here and a little bit there. I was into all kinds of things, buying and selling second-hand cars at one point."

Eventually he was called up as a Bevin Boy. He lasted two days down a mine at Swinton, near Salford. "I didn't like it at all down there. Not at all. So I walked out. I wouldn't have minded the Merchant Navy, but the mine was terrible."

As his luck would have it (and he's been undoubtedly lucky), the police took nearly two years to find him. "They came to the door and asked me why I wasn't down the mine, and I said I'd been ill." He had actually been running market stalls in Oldham and Rochdale.

He might have been sent to prison but was instead put in the RAF, where they even took into consideration the two years he should have been down the mine. In the end he only served a year of his National Service and much of that was in an RAF band, which was good because you did not have to do much square bashing or rifle drill.

Later he became a switchboard operator, usually at nights. "With the war being over by then, there weren't many phone calls at night so you could have a kip."

On other nights he would give a colleague 10 shillings to do his shift for him while he got on with running dances. "So I was never really in the RAF more than three days a week.

"I didn't like it, but I had a very easy time and managed to fiddle through."

He was nothing if not resourceful and, while stationed at Market Drayton, came up with the idea of raffling a bicycle owned by a friendly sergeant. "We just had to make sure he won the bike."

His first job after the RAF was the Raymond Shirt Company in Manchester, which was a good business to be involved in during clothes rationing. One night the police came to his door and said they had information that he had certain rolls of black-market cloth. He denied it. They must have believed him because they left without looking behind the curtain.

From there he moved to the pier at Clacton-on-Sea where, for £25, he bought a large trunk containing the entire act of a clairvoyant and his wife, Mr and Miss Tree, and became a professional mind-reader. He never stammered on stage and this worked rather well for a while, until his "little affair" with his girl assistant ended and things became difficult.

He dispensed with her and began a one-man thought-reading act involving "memorizing" numbers out of telephone directories. This was better. He toured the northern variety halls and as he was usually producing the shows, too, he made sure he got star billing.

Variety was dying, however, bookings became fewer and eventually the word reached him, "without nudes you've no chance". Nudes he didn't have, but he did have a couple of female tap-dancers who would open the first and second acts.

How would they feel about doing a couple of nude tableaux for an extra 10 shillings a week, he asked. "That was good money because they'd only been getting £5 10s for the whole week and they'd have to pay their bus fares out of that."

In those days nudes were not allowed to move a muscle on stage. Gamely the sisters draped lace curtains across their bare bodies, the drums rolled and the stage curtains parted to reveal, in quick and frozen succession, their interpretations of Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

Overnight the takings doubled and he did not have to be a mind-reader to know the audiences were not coming simply because of the excellence of his act.

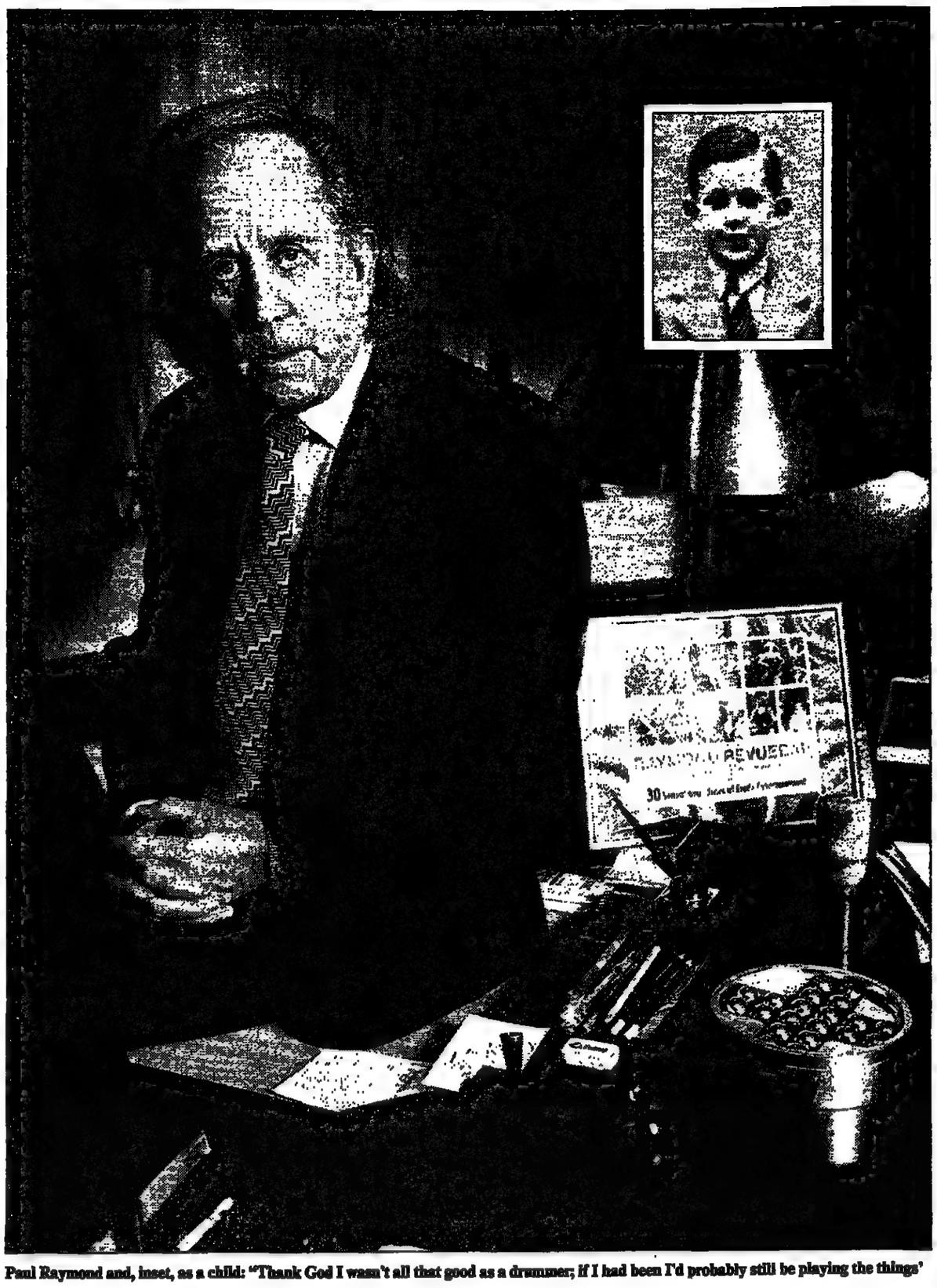
Now in his early 20s, he had found the direction which was to become his life and make his fortune. His mother was not happy: "To think that a son of mine would have anything to do with a show like that!" she would say in despair. It was, she thought, disgusting.

It was also extremely profitable. On Boxing Day 1951 he came down to London. In 1952 he opened the Raymond Revuebar in Soho. It is still open. Now a major Soho landlord, he receives rent from 136 properties, several housing famous restaurants, nightclubs, as well as office blocks and a cinema, while his own companies occupy a further 14 buildings. In 1988 his organization's published profits were £6,300,000 and are still rising.

Married once and divorced, he has two adult children, his daughter Debbie being an executive in his sex magazine business.

Brought up by strong females, he admires a strong woman and is anxious to let it be known that he is, "even these days", still a big fan of Margaret Thatcher.

And no doubt he has some interpretations of *laissez-faire* that even she never dreamed about.



Paul Raymond and, inset, as a child: "Thank God I wasn't all that good as a drummer; if I had been I'd probably still be playing the things'

Photograph by Chris Harris

Continued from page 33

Hemingway managed to affront most of the Pamplona band of comrades. He pretended to have heard that some of them had threatened to shoot him, and used to sit outside Lipp's Brasserie in Paris in ostentatious defiance of their imaginary menaces. At the same time, he was compulsively engineering the break-up of his marriage, an act which caused him remorse for the rest of his life.

Chink almost alone came off lightly in the book, disguised as the genial, laconic, though faintly disreputable Englishman, Wilson-Harris. Sometimes in disguise, sometimes under his own name and rank, sometimes present only in a tone of voice, he continued to reappear in several of Hemingway's books between the wars — in his short story *The Sun*, and in *A Farewell to Arms, Death in the Afternoon*, and *Green Hills of Africa*.

But the soldier and the writer began to drift apart without a quarrel. Chink was saddened by the dropping of Hadley, and his career was making growing demands. Unlike many of his fellow officers, he could see quite well that another war was coming, and that it would be a new kind of war. He did not mind whose toes he trod on in putting that message across. To his old Paris friends, he was an irregular correspondent, and, alas, a neglectful godfather.

"They never quarrelled because Hemingway was never in a position to pick a quarrel," says Greacen, who lives outside Dublin, and developed an interest in Chink while studying the letters between the two men. "Hemingway was the one who dropped people. Chink unintentionally retained the advantage because he was always leaving it to Hemingway to pick up the threads. Chink was good for Hemingway, because he saw him as a living representative of that code of chivalry and fortitude he wrote about. But Hemingway was bad for Chink, because he made him all the more impatient of military stuffiness."

Chink's role in the war is controversial to this day. In the struggle for North Africa, Auchinleck and O'Connor relied heavily on his quick thinking and audacity. At the first Battle of El Alamein, against the odds, they brought Rommel to a stop when he was in full career towards Egypt and control of the Middle East.

But Churchill did not want standstill, he wanted victory. "The Auk" was abruptly replaced by Montgomery, who immediately set about rubbishing the work of his predecessors, and took on Rommel only afterwards. Chink was stigmatized as too clever by half.

Greacen traces, with important new material, the painful story of how he made things worse by being so uninhibitedly aggrieved, and of the way his last chance of a comeback was sabotaged by a campaign of insinuations and outright lies from the dunces he had mocked in the past.

News of his disgrace reached Hemingway (not from Chink) and he made the story the basis for one of his better later novels, *Across the River and into the Trees*. Chink was too modest ever to see himself as the hero, who has at least as much of Hemingway as of Chink in him. At home in Ireland, he was being drawn into the projects of the IRA, then a relatively amateurish and quixotic organization.

He even wrote half seriously to his old friend in 1950 to invite him to join the romp — "if you feel like a fight again" — in a new incarnation: "The O'Hem, a mythical figure from the American underworld . . . " Mercifully, the O'Hem turned down this offer of one last round of mayhem, on the plea of infirmity.

They wrote regularly but met seldom ("Come in, Chink. I've some poetry to read to you. I can't talk poetry to anyone but you . . . "). Chink was shy of trading on his friendship with a famous man. But the Nobel laureate had problems of his own. His massive strength was ebbing, leaving him querulous and full of fears, real and irrational. He had chased away many true friends who might have stabilized him, and surrounded himself with hangers-on. Chink was scarcely aware of his decline.

In June 1961, perhaps muttering the old mantra "We owe God a death", Hemingway killed himself with a hunting shotgun.

Chink felt desperately guilty. Looking over the letters and the books, he saw that he might have picked up hints of the way things were going. But worse was to come. In 1964, the book Hemingway had been working on at his death came out.

A Moveable Feast is one of the saddest books in the world. With all the sureness of touch he had long lost, he describes the early days of his vocation, evoking Paris and his first marriage with a kind of savage nostalgia for what he has lost, and what he has thrown away. He is still trapped by the compulsion to abuse. But even now there is no reproach for Chink — wise, dependable, cheerful Chink, arguing about writing, catching trout in mountain streams, leading his flagging friends through the snowdrifts of the St Bernard.

"He had been my best friend and then our best friend for a long time," Hemingway wrote. "He takes care of us."

But in the end, he hadn't been able to.

● Chink, *by Lavinia Greacen, is published by Macmillan on March 19, £18.95.*

Once more into those old breeches

Ronald Faux looks at modern climbing clothes

They guard my wardrobe more effectively than mothballs. No moth would penetrate the defensive radius of those ancient climbing breeches, still redolent of lichen, peat hags and honest perspiration. One sniff brings back memories of lonely rock faces and dank gulleys. An indelicate air hangs round them. They defy neglect and ill-treatment and have the ponderous appeal of the R101 airship.

The material was known in its day as moleskin, although it would be a sickly mole that developed such a complexion. Cut off and buckled at the knee, the fashion of the time, voluminous and triple thickness in the seat, they would absorb water with the speed of a parched sponge. Dry, they were the weight of blockboard, wet they became as lead and stretched the bright red braces I wore to hold them up.

I no longer wear them. They hang there out of sentiment, old soldiers pensioned off, well away from my wife's half of the wardrobe. They have, she declares, an unwholesome and haunted quality. They are the kind of trousers that Captain Oates went out to be some time in, that George Mallory was last seen wearing before he disappeared on the upper reaches of Everest. They belong to another age, which was why I was holding them up the other day and considering how fashions change.

For modern mountaineers, trousers may be a salvation rather than a millstone round the legs. Provided they are matched with an impervious outer shell of breathing plastic, trousers can turn an external arctic into a summer warmth next to the skin.

Dressed to live: mountaineers in Glencoe in the Thirties

Last weekend in Glencoe there was a classic triumph of modern trouser over the elements. The weather was foul. Storm-force winds increased in strength and chill factor with every foot of altitude. Low cloud made the glen look every inch the place of gloom and massacre which it historically is. They were the conditions in which men in moleskins do not venture out. But not so the determined souls dressed to the nines in the latest layers of sweat-resistant, storm-proof, cold-repelling clothing.

Six were rescued after spending hours in a snow-hole in temperatures described by the rescuers as worse than arctic. One man had a broken leg, but the others were relatively unscathed. A few miles away, on the Curved Ridge of the Buachaille Etive Mor, a soldier slipped and plunged towards a 1,500ft drop. His companion merely banged in a couple of pitons (metal spikes) and left the luckless trooper dangling while he went to get help. The casualty was weather-proofed and wearing a "sit" harness. When the rope stopped the fall he survived in relative comfort and security.

"The first question I asked was whether he was wearing a harness," says Hamish MacInnes, leader of the Glencoe Mountain Rescue team which has been called out 16 times this year. "The traditional system of simply tying the rope with a bowline around the waist is a killer in those circumstances. Left hanging there, the constriction on the chest and lungs would strangle anyone in 10 minutes."

Mountaineering softwear of fibre-pile clothing, silk underwear that gives an exotic air to the average craggy climbers' shop, down duvet jackets and outer shell wind-proofs are complemented by hardwear of ropes of immense strength, ice-axes and belay devices designed to give protection.

"All these things are tremendous improvements and allow people to survive in the worst conditions. But what happens is that people rely on their equipment and go out when the conditions are absolutely shocking," MacInnes says.

The recent storms have been so bad that helicopter rescue operations were often impossible and the team had to return to rescue the hard way, on foot. But, according to MacInnes, relatively few problems are caused by mountaineers roped together on climbing routes.

The worst trouble comes from the dedicated baggers of Scotland's Munros (mountains over 3,000ft) who set out to add another tick to their list on days when they should leave their breeches hanging in the wardrobe.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

With Australia's general election two weeks away, **Christopher Thomas** canvasses the opinions of Sydney's taxi drivers on the battle of the birds

Behind the wheels of state

ROBIN JACQUES

The bludgers are destroying Australia. The Japanese are buying it, loggers are cutting it down and Aborigines are bleeding it. The exhausted land is blowing away in the wind, income tax is too high, productivity too low and even the weather has gone mad. These, anyway, are the conclusions of a cross-section of Australian taxi drivers, whose political punditry pours forth from the front seat in a great wash of wisdom, especially with the general election only two weeks away.

What's a bludger? A Sydney cabbie called Joe said he employed 35 of them when he owned a wholesale butcher's business. "Thieves, mate. People who take, take, take and don't give nothing. Scroungers is what they are. That's what's ruining the country — bludgers. Australians don't work, mate, that's the problem with Australia." Joe bought his big Ford taxi six years ago and is plainly doing well — well enough to go on a European package tour with his wife last year.

"We Australians don't know we're living. You know the price of a hotel room in Rome? I don't know why people say it's expensive here. No, we don't know we're living, mate." Suddenly Australia is the best place on earth. The trouble is, though, the government won't do anything about those Japanese people.

Every cabbie mentions the Japanese. The word is out that Australia is being sold off to them, farm by farm, building by building, just like in Hawaii and California.

Mr Andrew Peacock, leader of the opposition Liberal Party, squirmed and wriggled the other day when a radio interviewer virtually asked him to name and condemn the Yellow Peril. He refused to single out Japan, saying merely that he welcomed overseas investment with "reasonably adequate safeguards" from wherever it came, as long as Australians could invest in those countries, too. "Some hope," a cabbie scoffed. Taxi drivers believe that the first politician to stem Japanese investment in Australia will be propelled instantly into the Prime Minister's job.

Property analysts dispute the "invasion" theory, saying it is "more psychological than real", to quote one of them. British interests, in fact, own more real estate in Australia than any other foreigners. In any case, the rate of Japanese investment is slowing down because more attractive opportunities have turned up in the United States and Europe. Australia now ranks as fifth or sixth on Japan's overseas property investment list — down from second place.

But the myth lives on in passion-packed headlines such as "Cannon family under fire for selling to Japanese". Such stories touch the heart and soul of Australians. "For a century the Cannon family has farmed the sugar cane that grows tall and strong beneath White Rock-Mountain near Cairns in north Queensland," a paper reports, puffed with pride. But the last crop has been brought in, and old Mr Cannon has sold his farm for five times its agricultural value. A Japanese development company will now plant tall, strong concrete. The neighbours are said to be furious. Joe, the taxi driver, grows surly and silent.

Loggers are high on the cabbies' hit list, too. In 200 years 65 per cent of the tree cover has disappeared from the earth's oldest continent. Because the land is so ancient it is tired, thin and fragile — not deep and rich like the land the European immigrants were used to. Hacking down trees started an environmental tragedy that only recently has been recognized by farmers who have turned suddenly into the most conscientious conservationists in the land, planting trees with a furious dedication. It has been estimated that by the year 2000 one billion new trees will have been planted in Australia. But what's the point when you've got loggers chopping it all down?

Bob, a cabbie who drives a big, growling Ford, says loggers are tearing down new and ancient forests as if they were wheatfields that would grow back next year. The government's in cahoots with them, too. Politicians are all crooks, anyway. That Peacock fellow's all feathers and no meat, mate. The Gucci Kid, they call him. And that other bird, Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister — he's the little Silver Bodgie, mate.

What's a bodgie? "Don't you know about bodgies and widgies? Bodgies are blokes and widgies are women. Sort of like the rockers you had in England — you know, with poofed up hair like Hawke's. Know what they call the election? Battle of the birds. The Peacock versus the Hawke, mate. Fowl play, I call it — F-O-W-L, get it? Or battle of the bouffants."

He recalled a Sydney newspaper headline a while ago — one of those ornithological puns so beloved in Australian newsrooms — "Fine feathers don't make Peacock a Hawk", it said. Bloody right, too.

But back to logging. Conservationists are demanding, at the very least, the end of logging in the National Estates. They also want "high conservation value forests" outside the estates to be saved from the saw. And they say the industry must be restructured so that it is plantation-based. Senator Richardson, the Environment Minister, said that because of "pragmatic realities" logging in National Estate forests in New South Wales and Victoria would have to continue in the short-term. "What'd I tell you," the cab driver said triumphantly. "They're destroying the land and nobody cares."

Aborigines excite a lot of comment from taxi drivers. They don't want to work, that's the problem. They get a lot of money from the government, too. And they drink too much. Or so taxi drivers believe. There is quite a lot of muttered, cautious talk from the front seat about the number of Asian immigrants coming into the country, but that's a bit too sensitive to talk about with strangers. There is nothing subdued, however, when conversation turns to the subject of income tax.

A cabbie called John reckons he has to take about £12 an hour to make a reasonable living after paying the lease on his taxi. "An average bloke earns, say, £15,000. It don't take long if he does overtime to start getting into higher tax brackets. It's not worth working hard. There's no incentive. People who do overtime get slugged by the taxman."

It is the same story from every taxi driver — taxation is the national enemy. An English cabbie who came to Australia 25 years ago said he wanted to go home to Liverpool because he was sick and tired of working for the taxman. "That's just what I used to say when I left England. The unions are too powerful here and taxation is too high. House prices are out of sight and mortgages are 17 or 18 per cent. Young people don't have a chance. Hell, I can hear myself saying exactly the same 25 years ago."

The overwhelming feature of the election campaign is disillusion. After years of wage control the economy is still in bad shape and real living standards are falling. Mr Peacock touched a nerve when he said that for the first time young Australians faced the prospect of being worse off than their parents. Mr Hawke remains immensely popular — he did, after all, once make it into the *Guinness Book of Records* for his beer-drinking capacity. He has been teetotal for years. And his televised confession of adultery did him no harm at all, if only because it took so much courage.

Mr Peacock, who went through two highly public divorces with great dignity, is a much better campaigner and orator, but somehow Australia's taxi drivers are not sure about him. Mind you, did you hear about him and Shirley MacLaine? When asked about this particular rumour, a top Peacock aide confided: "Oh sure, but that was years ago. There's nothing in it now."

Given the level of disillusion with the two birds, lots of taxi drivers said they would vote for the Greens. One admitted that he would back the small Democratic Party, although he wasn't sure what it stood for. But it couldn't be worse than this lot.

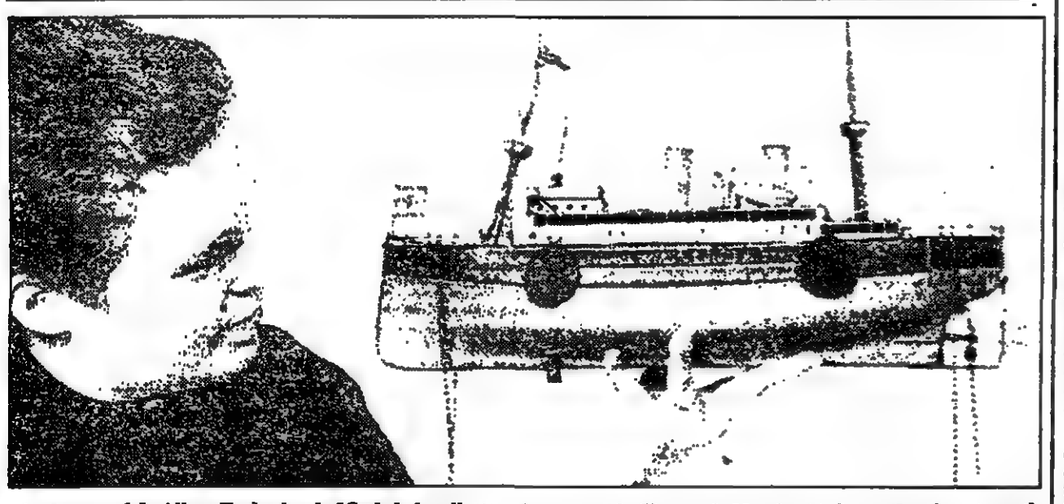
"Look at that stupid train," he went on, casting his eyes upwards. Didn't that sum it all up? An under-used monorail travels around the central streets of Sydney and loses money hand over fist. "It only covers a few blocks. Makes no sense at all. I don't know why they built the bloody thing, and neither do they."

Part of the reason for the taxi drivers' frustration is the ideological fusion of the two main parties, which leaves voters with no real choice. The Labour Party, which grew out of the trade union movement, has moved steadily to the right. It has even sold off public assets. The national airline, Qantas, is the next to go. The Labour Party's big boast is its long-term wage control agreement with the unions, which has brought a large measure of industrial peace. A side-effect is that union membership has fallen steadily to less than half the workforce because free collective bargaining has more or less ceased to exist.

The Liberals, who are conservative despite their name, talk a lot like Mrs Thatcher, saying they would cut taxes and government spending as she has done. Mr John Wells, the opposition leader's spokesman, said Mrs Thatcher was a shining example of a competent leader in charge of a competent government. "Well, mate, what we don't need in Australia is lessons from the Poms," a taxi driver said huffily. "This is the best bloody country in the world."

COLLECTING

Twenties toys found behind panelling will go on auction next month



Anchors aweigh: Alison Kurke, head of Sotheby's collectors department in Chester, holds a boat to be auctioned next month

Hidden treasure

A hoard of toys, hidden behind panelling in an attic playroom when their owner outgrew them and discovered 60 years later by his widow, are to be sold at Sotheby's in Chester next month.

The collection includes games from the Twenties, tinplate and clockwork toys, Meccano components, lead farmyard animals and railway figures, and Hornby 0 gauge trains and accessories, and is estimated to be worth between £3,000-£5,000.

The market is extremely buoyant so the collection could fetch a great deal more. The items are being sold by the original owner's widow.

She said that her husband, a businessman in the City, came from a family which never threw anything away.

The couple married in 1971, but during their married life he never mentioned the toys until the night before he went into hospital for an operation. "Quite casually he said I wasn't to forget his train set which was in the attic — his old playroom," she says. He died a few days later, aged 70.

"I didn't know what he was talking about and when he died there was such a lot to do. When I went to look up there I couldn't see anything. It was full of all kinds of stuff but there were no toys. Then I realized that an area to one side of the fireplace was hollow," she says.

"We pulled down the panelling and there they were, behind some silk curtains, stacked neatly on top of each other, mostly in their own boxes, just as he'd left them, although they were covered in soot. There were his films, boxed games, farm animals and just about everything you could imagine. It was really quite incredible."

Alison Kurke, head of the collectors' department at Sotheby's in Chester, catalogued the 17 lots which she describes as "charming".

Among the tinplate items is a Tipp clockwork four-seater limousine with uniformed driver (est £300-£400), a Gunthermann clockwork fire-engine (£250-£350), two English double-decker buses (£150-£250) and a double decker tram with glazed windows (£250-£350), a Fleischmann clockwork two-funnelled liner (£400-£600) and two boats (£120-£180).

There are collections of William Britain firm animals, implements (£200-£300), railway figures and station accessories (£150-£250). "When the saleroom people saw the farm things they wanted to know if there was a village idiot model among them, because apparently they are very rare," she says. There was. Among the train sets was a Hornby Royal Scot locomotive in LMS livery and matching LMS No 2 special tender, both in their original boxes (£200-£300), a No 2 4-4-4 tank locomotive in its original box (£150-£250), a No 1 040 black LMS tank locomotive No 623 with a black four-wheeled tender numbered 2710, three Pullman cars and six goods wagons (£150-£200).

But one of the things she found will not be on sale. "Right at the back was a very old, very tattered teddy bear," she says. "It was obviously much-loved. I shall keep it always."

● *Sotheby's, Booth Mansion, 28-30 Watergate Street, Chester (0244 315531). Viewing: April 7, 9.30am-12.30pm, April 9, 9.30am-4.30pm, April 10, 9.30am-3.30pm. Sale: April 11, 10.30am. Catalogues £7.*

John Shaw

SALES GUIDE

CORNISH CHIPPENDALE: An imposing George III bookcase 76in wide by 104in tall comes to auction estimated at £80,000-£120,000, in a strong furniture section in this two-day sale which includes silver, jewellery, ceramics.
David Lay, The Penzance Auction House, Alverton, Penzance, Cornwall (0736 61414). Viewing: today 11am-4pm, Wed 9am-7pm. Sale: Thurs, Fri 10am.

STAFFORDSHIRE STARS: Private collection of 50 Staffordshire figures including Wesley, Wellington and Garibaldi, all between £200-£300.
Lacy Scott, Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (0284 763531). Viewing: today 9am-1pm, Mon 9am-4pm, Thurs 4-8pm. Sale: Mon 10.30am, Tues 2pm and 6.30pm, Fri 11am.

POST HASTE: Postage stamps from more than 105 collections, mixed lots from £250-£300 up to £1,200-£1,500. Unpretentious general sale.
Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-629 6602). Viewing: Tues, Wed 9am-4.30pm. Sale: Thurs 11am.

CALLING COLLECTORS: Special weekend valuation next Saturday and Sunday. Collectors are invited to bring valuables for assessment.
Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 7611). Valuation: March 17, 10am-2pm, March 18, 1-4pm.

MUSEUMS

Funny you should say that

Sales of copies of the Falstaff Cup are to help the Globe theatre appeal

In one of the funniest scenes in the Shakespearian canon, Mistress Quickly, the hostess of an inn, has had Sir John Falstaff hauled before a magistrate to answer a "breach of promise" charge. In Act 2, Scene 1 of *Henry IV*, Part 2, she assails him with the evidence:

Thou didst swear to me upon a parcel-gilt goblet, sitting in my Dolphin Chamber, at the round table, by a sea-coal fire, upon Wednesday in Wheeson week, when the Prince broke thy head for liking his father to a singing-man of Windsor — thou didst swear to me then, as I was washing thy wound, to marry me, and make me my lady thy wife.

The characters which the world's greatest dramatist brought to the stage were three-dimensional and as large as life — larger, in fact, in Sir John's case. It seems likely that Shakespeare drew much on real life for his scenes: Sir John is said to be a cross between Sir John Fastolf and Sir John Oldcastle, a medieval knight.

But Shakespeare also used settings and objects that he knew. The inn scenes were probably set in the Boar's Head Tavern in the parish of St Michael's, Crooked Lane, in the City which had a Dolphin Chamber, named after the crest of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers.

The cup over which Sir John swore his love for Mistress Quickly was kept in the Chamber. It was made in 1590, six years before the play was written, and later presented to St Michael's Church. The inn and the church have both gone, but the cup has survived in the Treasury of St Paul's Cathedral. Now known as the Falstaff Cup, it is to come to the aid of The Globe Theatre Trust, the charity which is recreating the Globe a few yards from its original site on the Thames south bank.

The project, led by the actor/director Sam Wanamaker, is costing £18 million, and the first £3-million phase has just been completed. Another £1.3 million is needed to proceed with the second phase to keep on schedule for an opening on Shakespeare's birthday, April 23, 1992.

Permission has been given to reproduce the Falstaff Cup to help raise money for the appeal. Replicas are being made to order by BJS Silversmiths at a special price to *Times* readers of £335 each. Fifty pounds from each order will go to the Globe Appeal, and on Shakespeare's birthday this year, a cheque will be presented to Mr Wanamaker, director of the Shakespeare Globe Trust.

BJS Silversmiths is a family firm of craftsmen. They are handmaking each 11¾-in copy individually from sterling silver, gold-plated inside exactly as the original, and each will be hallmarked separately by the London Assay office.

Orders can be made by filling in the coupon below and sending it, with a cheque, to the address on the coupon. The offer closes on April 20.

Simon Tait

EXHIBITIONS

DESIGNER DEBUT 1: Milton Glaser, the distinguished American graphic designer, lectures on design and ambiguity. March 20.
Design Museum, Butlers Wharf, London SE1 (01-403 6933). Lecture begins at 7.15pm, tickets £10, concessions £7.

DESIGNER DEBUT 2: Exhibition of photographs and interviews explores how the British arrange their homes and how this has changed over the past 50 years.
Victoria & Albert Museum, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-938 8361). Voluntary donations of £2 requested, Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2.30-5.50pm.

FANTASYLAND: The work of Ray Harryhausen, creator of many magical effects in films such as *The Golden Voyage of Sinbad*.
Museum of the Moving Image, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3535). Adult £3.50, child, concessions £2.50. Tues-Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 10am-6pm. Until April 29.

VICTORIAN NEWCASTLE: Seen anew through the period water-colours of John Teasdale (1848-1926), a local artist.
Joicey Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne (091 232 4562). Free. Tues-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm. Until March 31.

EYE TO EYE: Dutch Old Masters to Stanley Spencer and Peter Blake in a travelling show of celebrated portraits from the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull.
Stoke-on-Trent Museum, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent (0782 202173). Free. Mon-Sat 10.30am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Until March 25.

WONDERS FROM WATKINS: Contemporary jewellery in geometric forms by David Watkins.
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021 235 2800). Free. Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Until April 17.

FALSTAFF CUP OFFER

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

Postcode ..... Phone .....

Please send me (enter quantity) ..... Falstaff Cup(s) @ £335.00 each, including postage and packing. (£50.00 donation towards The Globe Theatre)

I enclose a cheque payable to Times Newspapers Limited in the sum of £..... No .....

Please write your name and address on the back of cheques.

Post coupon and remittance to: The Falstaff Cup Offer, The Times, Promotions Department, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XP.

Please allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Offer available in the UK only.

LONDON FASHION WEEK

Nice work, if you can find it

The world's buyers descend on London for the fashion industry's showcase, to find our designers spreading their wares across the capital, Liz Smith reports

One of the perks of winning British fashion's Designer of the Year Award is being recognized in your local flower shop and having a couple of extra blooms thrust on you for free. Graham Fraser and Richard Nott, the designers behind the Workers for Freedom label and the current title holders, (the Princess of Wales presented them with the award last October), are enjoying their celebrity and the upturn in interest and orders from stores across the world. "You gain that little bit of confidence," Nott says modestly.

Bouquets of praise and bursting order books are the fashion fillip all our designers need this weekend. International store buyers are converging on London to focus on British style — London traffic permitting. The round of shows, parties and attention-grabbing events making up London Fashion Week (in reality, a long weekend wedged between the collections in Milan and Paris) got rolling yesterday with fashion followers zig-zagging through the capital, instead of being centralized, as in previous years.

A couple of the livelier designer names are missing. Katharine Hamnett and John Galliano both now show in Paris. Two established stars, Rifat Ozbek and Jasper Conran, are not staging catwalk shows but screening videos showing their clothes instead.

For the 220 exhibitors chasing orders from 5,500 buyers expected to trawl the British Designer Show, the four-day fashion fair at Olympia this weekend, this is the hard-sell event at which the clothes that will end up in our shops next winter are ordered. Torn between covering the exhibition and attending the shows, the buyers could spend their weekend stuck in a traffic jam.

However, reports that this devolution of the fashion shows is the root cause of problems facing designers are silly. British designers grumble when they are left to stand on their own feet without the support from government and industry which their French counterparts receive. But when the British Fashion Council, for the past four years under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Rayne, marshalled sponsorship from the industry for a show tent alongside the Olympia Exhibition Centre and rallied the designers to pool resources and share the site, the designers discovered they really preferred their own independence. They are the same all over the world — happiest doing their own thing.

There are signs that established patterns of showing collections are giving way elsewhere, too. In Paris and Milan a few individuals such as Mugler, Montana and Gaultier have from time to time split from the organized venues to places custom-made for their styles.

British fashion abroad is well represented by our major exporters — such as Burberry, Aquascutum, Ballantyne, Jaegar and Daks — who supply the thoroughbred tweeds and cashmere sweaters synonymous with British style. The top designers are the essential froth on top that draws buyers to explore a quirky, offbeat London "look" that repeatedly sets trends.

The intimacy of an art gallery or a showroom carved out of an elegant London Georgian house perfectly suits the scale of London designers' creations. What they lack in promotional skills they make up for in detailing and originality. But without the back-up of a secure manufacturing base, few should attempt to compete with the Italians or French with grand presentations.

Caroline Charles's brand of snappy British tailoring and soft evening suits was shown off perfectly in her elegant Knightsbridge salon yesterday. Edina Ronay's collection of brocade hooded coats and jackets, inspired by her Hungarian great uncle Otto, looked suitably sumptuous against the richly-ornamented backdrop of the V & A.

Jasper Conran's latest collection stars in the film he screens tonight at his showroom in Soho. Quilted bronze bomber jackets and coats, stretch velvet blousons and tight leggings, and long sweeping bath robe coats that are inspired, he says, by "off duty motorbiking ballerinas" will be modelled informally by a clutch of friends. "Instead of being wildly crazed and pressured about doing a show, I am relaxed," he says.

Douglas Hogg, Minister for Trade, is showing his support for British fashion — an industry with a £6 billion turnover last year and exports of £1.7 billion, which employs more than a quarter of a million people. He and Mrs Thatcher are scheduled to co-host a government reception tomorrow night at Lancaster House to celebrate London fashion, although it has not yet been confirmed that the Prime Minister will attend.

Annette Worsley-Taylor, who pulled together a group of top-bracket designers as the London Designer Collections in 1975, and who has consistently supplied designers with a chic selling platform ever since, has put forward plans to the BFC for an alternative industry-sponsored system of showing which should satisfy both idiosyncratic designer and busy buyer. "When this season is over the industry has got to decide whether it is going to support a central 'fashion village' which will promote design and be the showcase for the whole British industry."

Jasper Conran shows a long hooded "bathrobe" coat in grey brushed wool tied over stretchy black stirrup pants and hooded white satin seersucker top

Above: Graham Fraser and Richard Nott, of Workers for Freedom, fly their Freedom banner, picked out in appliqué on cream and black heavy poplin skirt, with distressed suede jacket and cream silk jersey T-shirt

Above left: Edina Ronay with her "Austro-Hungarian" tapestry hooded blanket coat edged with fake fur and black ski pants

Freedom photograph by DENZIL McNEELANCE
Hair and make-up by Wendy Sadd for Schumi

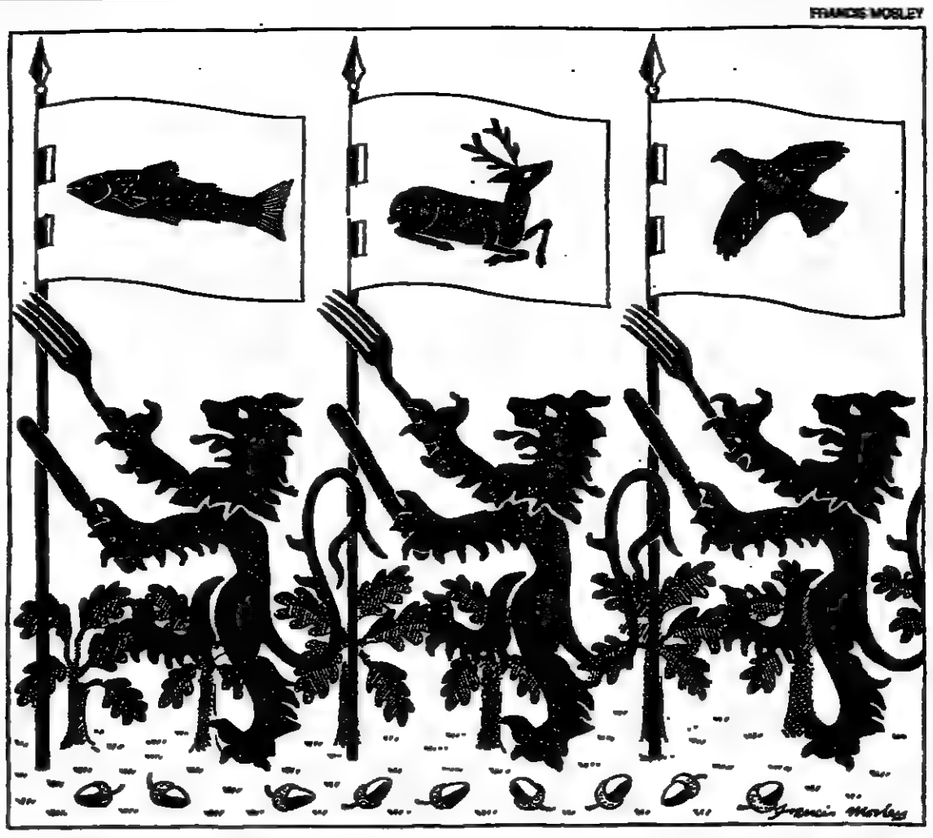
Conran and Ronay photographs by CLIVE ARROWSMITH
Make-up: Charlie Duffy. Hair: Ayo for Dobson & Davison

EATING OUT

Jonathan Meades makes his annual check-up on the progress of the chef Nicholas Ruthven-Stuart

Following the game

FRANCIS MOSLEY



Every year I receive a letter from a chef called Nicholas Ruthven-Stuart. Should I not receive it one year, I'd know where to look for him — he is always to be found in Hampshire, at an establishment with a gruesome dining-room and owners with whom he'll fall out sooner or later. In '87 he introduced himself in a letter notable for its — let us say — eschewal of self-doubt. In '88 he announced his removal from Middle Wallop to Winchester. In '89 he was off again, this time to the hamlet of Stuckton near Fordingbridge — still in Hampshire, though only just — and to a former pub whose bizarre interior cannot be excused as an accident. Someone actually wanted it to look this way. More of that in a moment.

This man's progress is worth following because his accomplishments mark him as a chef of more than parochial appeal. Stuckton is only 80 minutes from central London and will be even more quickly reached if the M3 extension through Twyford Down is built. (It probably won't be — the Government can surely not wish to add to the tally of own goals scored in the Winchester constituency by John Browne).

The Three Lions at Stuckton is a singularly appropriate site for Mr Ruthven-Stuart to exercise his talents. It is two hundred yards from the western perambulation (or boundary) of the New Forest, and a couple of miles from the edge of Cranborne Chase. This is game country, and to prove the point the Game Conservancy (a euphemism) has its HQ at Fordingbridge. Mr Ruthven-Stuart possesses a surer and more imaginative touch with game than practically any other chef in the country. At his post before last he did a most delicious grouse dish, a dish that owed nothing to the miserable English practice of desiccatory roasting. Here he had, the night I dined, two game dishes on the menu. They both outdid that memorable grouse of two and a half years ago. The first was a saddle of roebuck, cooked *à point*, served with wild mushrooms, a pear that must have been poached in red wine and syrup or in a sweet fortified wine, and a sauce that was as unusual as it was excellent. It was rich, fairly intense, gamey, and flavoured with nutmeg or mace; it could not have been better judged and its depth recalled the sauce mastery of Nico Ladenis — not, I think, that Mr Ladenis would cook such a sauce. His inspiration is Mediterranean; this chef strikes me as owing something to northern precedent, to the sort of cooking one finds in the Ardennes. The second game dish bore that out. This comprised breasts of pheasant *and* pigeon — the former light and mild, the latter rare and potent — with potato gallette, pulses and a peppery sauce. This, also, was outstanding.

Mr Ruthven-Stuart has taken over the kitchen of The Three Lions from its owner Karl-Hermann Wadsack who, years ago, was *chef de cuisine* at Chewton Glen. Mr Wadsack is, obviously enough, German and it may well be from him that Mr Ruthven-Stuart has acquired these northern accents and mannerisms. The lunchtime menu certainly includes dishes such as bratwurst and pickled herring that are unmitigatedly German. I ate neither of those. In the course of the two meals I had here I did eat: two similar looking but differently flavoured fish soups — one included saffron and distinctly un-northern *croûtons* with aioli, the other (at lunchtime) was simpler and had fish quenelles in it; a warming gratin of Arbroath Smokies (smoked haddock) that was not, strangely, marred by the inclusion of cheese; lamb's breads and kidneys in a vinegar sauce; a sticky toffee pudding; a classic and clasically fine chocolate marquise. These were, without exception, faultless. The only error of judgement I discerned was in the flavouring of some puréed swede — I know that swedes are orange in hue but it does not thus follow that they should be pepped up with filaments of orange peel; they are quite sweet enough as they are. I guess that marmalade eaters — I am not one — might enjoy this tuber-and-fruit oddity.

Unusually for an English restaurant The Three Lions appears to reflect the produce of its immediate surrounds. I'd love to be able to report that Mr Ruthven-Stuart cooks salmon from the Hampshire Avon which is less than a mile away. There is a photograph of me at the age of five (I remember it being taken) beside a 44lb salmon my father killed on the Avon near Ibsley — the fish was taller than I was. Today, though, what was once the greatest salmon river in southern Britain is a kelt of its former self.

The Avon's demise is not due to netting, nor to overfishing, but to pollution from trout farms. A couple of years ago the Earl of Radnor admitted in the House of Lords that his fishery at Longford Castle, 10 miles upstream from Stuckton, inevitably pollutes the Avon. The point about farmed trout that must be made is that their gastronomic worth (which is slight) does not outweigh the depredations of their nurture. They are fish-farmer friendly, that's all. The only salmon The Three Lions offers is gravad ("buried") salmon. Again, I didn't try it, but given the sheer pride that this place takes in everything it does I'd be amazed if it wasn't first rate.

The dining-room is not first rate unless, that is, you are an amateur of Germanic kitsch — in which case it will still not be first rate because it lacks steins and horns and leather shorts. None the less, it is quite an item. There are: embroidered scenes of bucolic life; corn dollies; pewter plates; azaleas in jardinières; weinstube tables of stripped pine; a loud carpet from the first bedsit you ever lived in; hunks of pottery. And the walls are hospital green, an emetic peppermint. In the men's toilet are framed photos of naked women with sand on their bottoms and cordless phones in their hands; perhaps they are carnal masterpieces by Patrick Lichfield. The wines here are various and promising. That the promise should be unfulfilled is largely due to the composition of the list. I had forgotten how ghastly German wines were until I tasted a Riesling here. And a '74 Cornas was iffy, too. At least they came in halves: this restaurant does numerous halves.

What it doesn't do by halves is the exhibition of certificates of gastro-proficiency on the walls: a bit of frame, a bit of heraldry, the name of Karl-Hermann Wadsack in thick italic, a scrawled signature, a decorative border of, say, acanthus. These emblems are everywhere. Maybe they impress the predominantly elderly, retired bank manager clientele of The Three Lions, but I doubt it. Besides which, they are a bit of an insult to the incumbent chef.

Lest this column sound like a fan letter I should state that Mr Ruthven-Stuart is *not* my nephew or my brother-in-law, that, indeed, I've never met the guy. Further, I hope that he won't fall out with his current employers — one cannot rely on Mr Parkinson cutting an M-way to Hayling Island. But before he moves to Hayling, to Bistro Despair, Mr Ruthven-Stuart should do something about The Three Lions's proscription of children and its admission of dogs. £80.

THE THREE LIONS
★★★★★★★
Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hampshire (0423 52489).
Lunch Tues to Sun, dinner Tues to Sat. £80 dinner, £50 lunch.
Access, Visa.

DIRECTORY

Stars — up to a maximum of 10 — are for cooking rather than swags and chandeliers. Prices are for a three-course meal for two. They include an aperitif and modest wine in the case of French places, tea in the case of oriental ones and so on. Prices change: they usually go up. Dishes also may have changed — they are given only as an indication of the establishment's repertoire. I accept no responsibility for disappointments and claim no credit for happy surprises. Always phone first. J.M.

VICTORIA

Scandinavia
Scandic Crown Hotel, Bridge Place, London SW1 (01-867 8877)
★★★
Modern Swedish-owned hotel with extensive views over the side of Victoria Station. The interior of the restaurant is in early Seventies airport style. The cooking is up-market airport stuff for the most part. But it's by no means poor — unexciting maybe, but competently done: *boudin blanc* with dill and mustard, oversalted warm-treated salmon and halibut. Pretentious service. £80-£90.

Ciboure
21 Eccleston Street, London SW1 (01-730 2505)
★★
Small, smart haunt of frock designers. The cooking is seduously bent on novelty — prunes and nutmeg turn up in a *foie gras* terrine, citrus fruit mars a juniper sauce, beef is mugged by heavyweight herbing. £70.

Very Simply Nico
48a Rochester Row, London SW1 (01-630 8061)
★★★★★★
A super-bistro, or quasi-brasserie, or something between the two. The cooking, by Nico Ladenis's former sous-chef, Tony Tobin, is not that simple. Some of the dishes, such as pickled trout, are period pieces. Others, such as *boudin blanc* of chicken, are unusual. There is fine duck confit, excellent steak garnished in the traditional Bernaise mode, brilliant chips, potato purée dense with olive oil. Friendly service. Short but interesting wine list. £60.

FINE WINES

Lalith's
92 Kensington Park Road, London W11 (01-229 4481)
★★★★★
Staunch survivor of the Sixties which has moved with the times, but not too much. Artichoke and green olive pie, beef with splendid watercress sauce, lamb and venison with whisky sauce. Highly professional service, wines to go in the red for £80.

Clarke's
124 Kensington Church Street, London W8 (01-221 9225)
★★★★★
No choice dinners, limited choice lunches. The cooking is superior dinner party stuff — fairly simple, well balanced, good ingredients, not much showing off. Ricotta and artichoke pie, well herbed rack of lamb, first-rate British cheeses, nice breads. Sound wine list, strong in New World bargains. £70.

Bibendum
Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 (01-581 5817)
★★★★★★★
Elegant restaurant which raises the bistro and brasserie dishes of the day before yesterday to heights they never scaled then. Some of Simon Hopkinson's sauces err on the side of over-emphasis, but the majority of the classic dishes are spot on: *tête de veau, oeufs en meurette*, fine steaks, outstanding beef daube, outstanding *tarte fine aux pommes*. Overpriced, but undeniably impressive wines. £100.

One Ninety Queensgate
190 Queensgate, London SW7 (01-581 5666)
★★★★★★★
Self-consciously earthy cooking, indebted to the currently modish *cuisine du terroir* and generally very good. Chef Antony Worrall-Thompson serves pulses with just about everything: lentils with *foie gras*, lentils with lamb and a meat reduction and fried *foie gras*. Happy service, animated punters who are, unsurprisingly, enjoying themselves. Terrific wine list includes 20 pudding wines and many little known French regional bottles. £85.

Ménage à Trois
15 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 (01-589 4252/584 9350)
★★
One of the most fashionable restaurants of the early Eighties, when its gimmick was to serve only starters and puds. It now does more than that but is still wildly eclectic. The dishes are well-intentioned and often ill-executed. The wine list is among the best in Britain. £65-£85.

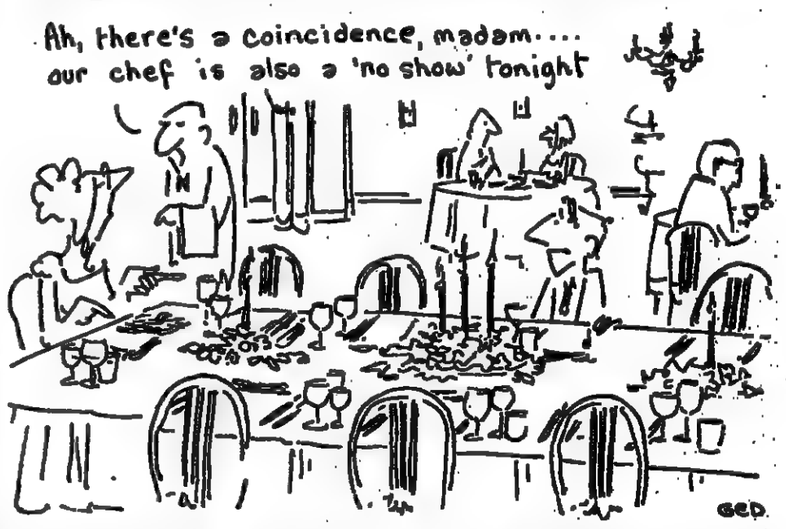
RSJ
13a Coin Street, London SE1 (01-928 4554)
★★★
Almost certainly the most extensive selection of Loire wines in Britain, and there can be few places in the Loire valley which match it. The cooking has little affinity with these wines. It is run of the mill Frangipani stuff. What should be hearty, wintry dishes are spoiled by daintiness. Fish is rather better dealt with. £50-£60.

NORTH YORKSHIRE

McCoy's
The Cleveland Tontine, Staddlebridge, Northallerton (060 982 671)
★★★★★★★
Some of Tom McCoy's cooking in this wonderful one-off restaurant competes with the best in Britain. The stuff to go for includes langoustine ravioliis, Bresse pigeon with leeks, veal kidney with mustard sauce, lamb with capsicum tart, *foie gras* with grapes stewed in Madeira, just about any of the sweets. The dining-room is sumptuous, sort of jazz age, comfortable. For a grand restaurant — and it is no other kind of restaurant — it is endearingly laid-back. The wines are mostly French, mostly good, and there is always an interesting load of bin-ends and half bottles. £65-£70.

Time for a showdown

Restaurateurs are starting to take action against customers who fail to honour bookings, writes Geraldine Ranson



Restaurateurs around the country are thinking of taking action against people who book tables and fail to turn up. "No shows" constitute a serious problem for all but a few places.

The small, privately owned establishment which serves about 50 customers in an evening, often with some of the best food, is particularly vulnerable. A no-show table for six can wipe out more than 10 per cent of the evening's turnover and most of the profit. The later in the evening the booking, the less likely the replacement.

In London Nico Ladenis, proprietor of Chez Nico and Very Simply Nico, says: "We have about 10 per cent no-shows, which makes life very difficult. I've now started over-booking as it seems to be the only way to make up the loss." He feels that restaurants do not have a good image and are not taken seriously by the British public. "It's soul-destroying," he says. "Sometimes I have had to turn away one of my best customers for a no-show." Only New Yorkers, who drink tap water and ask for the sauce to be served on the side, make Mr Ladenis more angry.

Bibendum in Fulham Road has two or three no-show tables every day. General manager Joel Kissin tries to avoid the situation by instructing the bookers to take telephone numbers and ring back on the day to confirm the reservation. For large reservations and those made by hotels, he likes a written or faxed confirmation.

Tony Porter's Bargh Island Hotel in south Devon has no passing trade and is cut off from the mainland at high tide (guests are fetched by sea tractor). When a table for nine did not show last summer, his chef agreed not to start "clearing down" the kitchen for another half an hour. But Mr Porter was faced with the loss of nearly 20 per cent of the evening's turnover. Next day the customer maintained that a member of the party had been ill. But, Mr Porter said, when he had tried to telephone the previous evening, there had been no answer.

At the Carved Angel in Dartmouth Meriel Boyden, one of the partners, thinks the problem is seasonal. "It's summer holiday-makers" she says. "They can reduce our takings by up to 10 per cent in a bad week. It's not only the loss of money but the fact that we've turned other people away that annoys us. Even if they ring at 8pm it's better than not turning up at all."

The Savoy in the Strand, however, has few problems — only about three tables a week, which are quickly taken up by the hotel's residents. The majority of the customers are regulars. However, Manzi's, also long-established and centrally located, will only take dinner bookings for the downstairs restaurant on the same day "just to make sure that customers don't forget to turn up".

The customer, however, should be wary. A booking constitutes a legally binding contract. Neville Blech, the proprietor of Mijanou in Ebury Street, London, sued a no-show for damages and won. "It was the last straw," he says. "When I wrote to the man asking for compensation, the company lawyer wrote back saying there was no contract. I won £80 and £8 costs, but the cost to myself was about £5,000 in solicitor's fees and wasted time."

So what can proprietors do? Increasingly, restaurants take customers' telephone numbers and credit card details with bookings. Some, like Christopher and Judy Bradley of Mr Underhill at Earl Stonham in Suffolk (who have also sued no-shows), request a 50 per cent deposit for an advance party booking. They can only serve 28 people and three no-show tables constitute a disaster.

"People who are not going to cancel are happy to pay," Mr Bradley says. "The ones who object probably wouldn't turn up anyway. However, we can have problems when a customer has paid a deposit for a party of, say, 12 and only half that number turns up. Of course, we refuse to refund the deposit for the other six. Survival is the name of the game."

With plenty of passing trade at Le Gamin and Le Poulbot in the City, the Roux brothers have no difficulties. At their Waterside Inn in Bray and at Le Gavroche in Mayfair, they charge £25 per head deposit for bookings for parties of more than eight. "The serious customers are pleased to pay," says Diego Masciaga, restaurant manager of the Waterside Inn.

The Restaurateurs Association of Great Britain advises members that it is legal to charge a deposit as long as the terms of trading are made clear at the outset. Many proprietors feel that since customers pay for theatre tickets and holidays in advance, why not meals?

American Express, which claims to be the number one charge card used in restaurants, admits that it is a problem. Marketing director David Rodin says the company is looking at a plan whereby, in exchange for guaranteed payment of the bill, the restaurant would give cardholders priority bookings. The snag, however, is to get the 20,000 Amex-registered restaurants to agree.

Turning a restaurant into a club certainly helps solve the problem, since members receive monthly accounts, and even the mighty Garrick Club bills its members if they fail to cancel pre-booked tables. However, the secretary of the Cavalry and Guards Club, David de Pinna, was shocked by the suggestion: "Our members are simply not the sort of people who do that sort of thing." John Davey, formerly manager of Bibendum, has found the problem much less severe since he moved to Mosiman's, a private dining club in West Halkin Street.

One proprietor thinks he might resort to a ploy reputedly much-used in New York. At about one o'clock in the morning, before he locks up, the boss rings up all the no-shows. "We are still holding your table, sir," he says. "Can you tell me when we can expect to see you?"

The customer, of course, is not always the guilty party: restaurants sometimes fail to provide a table that has been booked well in advance. The October 1989 issue of *Which?*, published by the Consumers' Association, states that the customer then has the right to sue for breach of contract claiming out of pocket expenses (travel, for example) and in the case of, say, a birthday celebration, a sum for disappointment. However, if you mention your intention to contact the Trading Standards Officer at the local council or the Citizens Advice Bureau, the restaurateur may decide that it is simpler to provide the table after all.

THE TIMES COOK

Dressing up vegetables

Frances Bissell experiments with a selection of sauces and dips to adapt some simple meat-free recipes

DIANA LEADBETTER

Here are some meatless dishes that I like to serve at home. A large plate or basket of vegetables makes a very good start to a meal when you are entertaining. It is something you can pass around with drinks to stave off the hunger pangs without spoiling the appetite, or you can sit down to eat it. The vegetables can be all raw or all cooked, as you prefer (although there are some which should always be cooked) or, for the best contrast of textures, have some cooked, such as new potatoes and leeks, and serve the rest raw. On balance, I prefer cauliflower raw and broccoli just lightly blanched, but that's purely a matter of individual taste.

Dips and sauces can be as simple or as elaborate as you like. The Italian *pinzimonio* is perhaps the simplest of all but, because nothing else masks its flavour, it is important to use a well-flavoured extra virgin olive oil. You may like to serve a selection of dips and dressings, or just one. For a real DIY course, which I must confess, I have not tried, you could get out your most exotic oils and vinegars, arrange them on a tray with a few small bowls of nuts, herbs, sea salt and other condiments, and let your guests mix their own.

The fish stew has long been a favourite recipe of mine, partly because it is so easy and quick to cook, and partly because it is such an adaptable recipe. Sometimes I replace the vermouth with a larger quantity of dry white wine, reduce the amount of tomatoes or leave them out altogether, and flavour and colour the stew with saffron stamens soaked in a little hot water. Chopped fennel bulb can be added to the vegetable mixture and the flavour enhanced with a splash of pastis. Follow the basic method, but replace the flavouring with lemon grass, ginger and lime leaves or chillis and star anise pods to create a dish with an oriental flavour. The cooking liquid could be fish stock with a little rice wine enriched with coconut cream (sold in blocks in oriental and Asian food shops and some supermarkets). Serve a bowl of steamed or boiled rice with the stew. For another, more substantial version of the stew, diced or sliced potatoes or pasta shells can be cooked with the stock and vegetables of the basic recipe before you add the fish.

Thinking about adaptable recipes brings me to another favourite starter, which hardly warrants a recipe. I cook small, whole leeks, three or four per person, arrange them on individual plates, dress while still warm and then arrange another ingredient on top; it might be freshly cooked quail's eggs, diced salami, shredded cooked chicken or smoked salmon trimmings. Try it with quickly fried oyster mushrooms, prawns or chicken livers. Cod's roe is good and plentiful at the moment. Buy it ready-cooked from your fishmonger or cook it yourself. Poach it gently in water and then let it cool. When firm, slice and fry it, in olive oil, for example, and serve it on top of the salad. If the leeks are particularly fresh and good, they are probably best left unadorned, except for a vinaigrette poured over them while still warm.

Vegetable starter
Use a mixture of the following as available:

- small carrots
- blanched small leeks
- baby corn
- boiled new potatoes
- blanched green beans
- blanched mangetouts or sugar snap peas
- blanched or raw cauliflower and broccoli florets
- celery
- chicory
- cherry tomatoes
- radishes
- cooked or raw baby artichokes, thinly sliced or cut into wedges
- fennel bulb, cut into wedges

Serve as *bagna cauda*, *pinzimonio* or crudités with a dip, using one of the following sauces:

Bagna cauda
(serves 4 to 6)

- 2oz/60g butter
- 4 or 5 garlic cloves, or to taste
- 1 small (50g) can of plain anchovy fillets
- 6floz/170ml extra virgin olive oil

Melt the butter in a small heavy saucepan, and cook the peeled and thinly sliced garlic. When the garlic is soft, but not browned, add the drained anchovy fillets, cut into two or three pieces. Stir and crush with a wooden spoon, and gradually stir in the olive oil, heating it gently. When the mixture is thoroughly blended, set the pan over a small spirit or candle burner, and take it to the table to serve hot with the vegetables.

Pinzimonio
(serves 4 to 6)

- 8floz/230ml extra virgin olive oil
- freshly ground black pepper
- sea salt

Mix thoroughly, adding salt and pepper to taste, and serve in a small bowl to accompany the vegetables.

Herb, walnut and lemon dressing
(serves 4 to 6)

- 1tbsp finely chopped chives
- 1tbsp finely chopped parsley
- 1tsp fresh thyme leaves
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and chopped
- 2oz/60g chopped walnuts
- ½tsp sea salt
- black pepper to taste
- 2floz/60ml walnut oil
- ¼pt/140ml sunflower or grapeseed oil
- juice of ½ lemon

Mix the ingredients together in the order given, crushing the garlic and walnuts with the salt before slowly adding the oils and then finally the lemon juice.

Fish stew
(serves 6)

- *Use a mixture of firm fleshed fish, such as halibut, conger eel, or monkfish. Pieces of salmon can be added, as well as a mixture of shellfish, such as fresh mussels, scallops or prawns*
- 1tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, peeled and thinly sliced
- 3 leeks, white part only, washed and sliced into rings
- 1 celery stalk, trimmed and sliced
- 6 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed
- 1lb/455g ripe tomatoes, peeled and seeded and roughly chopped, or 1 can peeled plum tomatoes
- 1 orange
- 1tsp fennel seeds
- 1½pt/850ml fish stock
- 3lb/1.35kg fish and shellfish, prepared weight
- 4tbsp dry white vermouth
- salt
- pepper
- 1-2 tablespoons chopped parsley, chives, chervil or coriander

Heat the olive oil in a large heavy saucepan or casserole, and sweat the onion, leeks, celery and garlic in it until soft, but not brown. Add the tomatoes, and cook until most of their juice evaporates. Carefully pare off two or three long curls of orange zest, then cut the orange in half, and squeeze out the juice. Put the juice and peel in the pan, together with the fennel seeds and a little of the fish stock. Cover and cook gently for 15 minutes. Where necessary, cut the fish into 2in/5cm chunks, and arrange on top of the vegetables. Pour on the vermouth and remaining fish stock. Bring gently to the boil, simmer for two to three minutes until the fish is just cooked, season to taste, stir in the herbs, and serve immediately.

Baked stuffed pears
(serves 4)

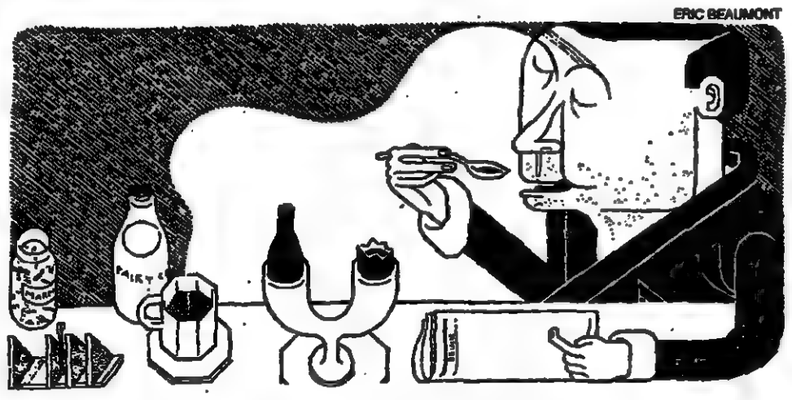
- 4 ripe but sound pears
- 1 lemon, cut in half
- 3oz/85g ricotta
- 1tbsp sultanas
- 1tbsp ground almonds
- 2tbsp clear honey

Peel the pears, and rub them all over with the cut lemon to prevent them discolouring. Remove the core, working from the base of the pear, cutting out a small plug first, which can be replaced, and then enlarging the core cavity. Mix the ricotta, sultanas, almonds and a teaspoon or two of the honey. Spoon this mixture into the pears, replacing the plug, and put the pears in a saucepan. Trickle the rest of the honey over them, and squeeze on the lemon juice. Cover and cook very gently until the pears are tender. Serve hot or cold with the cooking juices and thick yoghurt.

DRINK

How does the 1988 vintage shape up? Jane MacQuitty separates the great from the good

Two-sided Rhônes



ERIC BEAUMONT

No one doubts that the 1988 vintage in the Rhône was a great year. How great is the question. Everyone agrees that the '88 Rhônes are not in the same league as the superlative '78s, but after that the picture is less clear.

The problem when attempting to assess any Rhône vintage is that this wine-producing area is really two separate regions. The north, situated between Vienne and Valence, is the stronghold of the Syrah grape, and in fine years its steep, granite slopes produce extraordinarily rich, spicy, perfumed, full-bodied wines. The warmer, wider, flatter, more Mediterranean-influenced south, centred on Orange, is home to numerous red and white grape varieties, dominated by the robust, earthy, red Grenache grape. As a result the southern Rhône reds, and to a certain extent the whites, are bigger and beefier in style and have more in common with the wines of Provence to the south. This does not mean that the southern Rhône offerings are always eclipsed by those of the north — the south's splendid Châteauneuf-du-Papes, made by a first-class producer, equal the Syrahs of the north.

Because of the split personality of the Rhône, the message from its producers is often confused. The trouble is that while Monsieur X from Châteauneuf-du-Pape claims that this year's wines are the finest the Rhône has ever produced, Monsieur Y from Valence in the north will be grumbling about the Rhône's poor crop.

The word on the 1988 Rhônes has been further confused by rumours about the quality of the 1989 Rhône vintage. Although the '89 southern Rhônes could possibly be superior to the '88s, everyone seems to agree that the northern '88s are much finer than the '89s. However, judging young, dense, tannic wines is always difficult and the '89 Rhône picture will not be complete until next spring, when most of them will have been bottled.

Merchants in this country have placed the deep-coloured, rich, ripe, yet well-structured style of the '88 Rhônes between those of the '83 and '85 vintages. The Wine Society feels that "the '85s are softer and earlier maturing, while the '88s tend to be better structured with potential to keep longer". The Hungerford Wine Company believes the '88s "have more concentration, body and colour than the '85s and more finesse than the '83s". Similarly, Tanners describes '88 Rhônes as "an exceptionally good vintage . . . deeply coloured, rich, fat wines full of spice and ripe fruit". I think that what separates the best '88s from other, more humdrum Rhône years is the extraordinarily intense, purple-black colour, backed up by a powerful, heady, spicy perfume and a complex, tannic, structured palate with all the fruit, bite and backbone needed for ageing. The '88 Rhônes are clearly worth having in your cellar.

The Rhône's '88 weather shaped the vintage. Things looked gloomy to start with, due to a wet, albeit mild, winter followed by a damp spring and early summer. The all-important flowering of the vine, which dictates quantity and quality, went better than expected, however, and it was only the south and isolated pockets in the north, such as Côte Rôtie, that had a poor flowering, accompanied by a lower yield. The hot, dry days of July and August and the occasional burst of beneficial rain ensured that quality picked up, and a sunny September and October, with perfect harvest conditions between September 19 and October 6, set the seal on a quality vintage.

Perhaps the best reason for purchasing the '88 Rhônes for your cellar is that they are tremendous value for money compared with the wines of Bordeaux and Burgundy. As a result, more UK merchants are beginning to specialize in Rhône wines, and although best vintages of the big names tend to sell out quickly, there are plenty of good Rhônes widely available.

Justerini & Brooks, 61 St James's Street, London SW1, has specialized in the wines of the Rhône for some time, and its forthcoming '88 Rhône offer will be worth plundering. The red and white pair of J & B's humble '88 Vin de Pays de Vaucluse Vieux Chêne is a testament to the excellence of the '88s, and are bargains at £3.30 a bottle. White Rhônes usually leave me cold, but do try Jaboulet's '88 Crozes-Hermitage, Mule Blanche which has a buttercup-gold colour and big, rich, buttery-citric taste (El Vino, 47 Fleet Street, London EC4, £6.90). Even finer is the white '88 Châteauneuf-du-Pape from Henri Brunier at the Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe. This wine has a flowery, delicate, lime blossom and honey taste (J & B £9). Red Rhône fans should track down J & B's splendid '88 Côtes du Rhône, Cuvée des Capucines from the Domaine Vieux Chêne. Its Grenache-dominated, rich, gamey taste is a bargain at £3.90. The most sensational '88 red Rhône here is Pierre Gaillard's glorious '88 Côte Rôtie, Côte Brune et Blonde (£12.17) which has a spicy scent and glorious sandalwood-influenced fruit.

Berry Bros & Rudd, across the road from J & B at 3 St James's Street, London SW1, has a choice of six '88 Rhônes in an offer that officially closed on February 26. It still has stocks of all the wines, however, so get your order in now. Like J & B, it has a clutch of bargain bottles, most notably the excellent, rich, smoky, juicy-fruity '88 Domaine de la Garenne from the Côtes du Ventoux (£3.18). The star of its '88 Rhône show is a trio of Chapoutier reds that have been bottled by Berry's. They are slightly weightier blends than this well-regarded Rhône merchant's own bottlings. The Crozes-Hermitage (£55.20 a case) is the best buy here. I enjoyed this wine's seductively rich, ripe, blackberry and loganberry fruit. Even more magnificent is Berry's '88 Hermitage (£108 a case), whose wonderful, rich, complex, oaky-sappy structure is backed up by lashings of red and black summer fruits. Marginally less impressive is Berry's perfumed, hefty '88 Côte Rôtie (£132 a case) whose chunky tannin and oak-dominated style will need more time to mature than most '88s. (Berry's prices include VAT, delivery and duty. These wines will be ready for delivery at the end of April.)

The Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, has a wide range of '88 Rhônes on offer, including most of the Jaboulet wines. The best of the medium-priced Jaboulets is the straight '88 Crozes Hermitage, whose soft, scented, velvety, blackberry and redcurrant fruit is typical of what this house does best which the Wine Society does not sell, but Oddbins will sell it at the end of April for £5.69 a bottle. One up from this Jaboulet is the Domaine de Thalabert Crozes-Hermitage, which has a purple-black colour and seductive plum and blackberry fruit (The Wine Society £6.75, Oddbins £6.49, Adnams, The Crown, Southwold, Suffolk £6.50). The '88 vintage of Jaboulet's celebrated Hermitage La Chapelle is also worth considering (Adnams £17.50, Oddbins £18.99, The Wine Society £170 per case, excluding duty and VAT charges but including delivery). Its opaque purple-black colour and distinguished cedary-sappy palate will not be worth drinking until the turn of the century, but you won't be disappointed.

WINE BUYS

● **1987 Orlando RF Cabernet Sauvignon, Tesco, £4.29.**
This inexpensive Australian Cabernet from one of South Australia's most successful wine companies makes an excellent March red. Its soft, cedary, cassis-like style makes especially easy drinking.

● **Tesco Asti-Spumante, Tesco, £3.89.**
Not a great bottle of Asti, but a good one blessed with lots of clean, gentle, musky Muscat fruit. Try a glass mid-afternoon with a slice of fruit cake, instead of a cup of tea.

● **1988 Château De Targé, Saumur Champigny, Haynes, Hanson & Clark, 17 Lettuce Street, London SW6, £5.64.**
Red wines from the Loire may not be to everyone's taste, but the delicious, good, strong, well-structured raspberry and blackberry fruit of this wine made by the Pisani-Ferry family is worth seeking out.

● **Pierre Vaudon Brut Champagne, Haynes, Hanson & Clark, £11.10.**
All champagne has its quality ups and downs but Pierre Vaudon's distinctive, elegant, waxy, *brioche*-like style has been more consistent than most.

● **1982 Château Caronne Ste Gemme, The Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, £8.80.**
First-class '82 clarets are getting harder to come by, and this very fine, ripe, velvety-truffley Cru Bourgeois from the Haut-Médoc is drinking especially well at the moment.

FOOD

Playing safe?

By Christmas there could be something new to eat on the shop shelves — irradiated chicken. Irradiation will become possible under the Government's Food Bill which had its second Commons reading on Thursday.

Public reaction to the proposal tends to be extreme. In one survey 85 per cent of respondents said they would never buy irradiated food. That does not discourage Britain's biggest food retailer, Sainsbury, from saying that it will stock it. Indeed, Sainsbury's executives, challenged as to why their chicken supplies could not be 100 per cent salmonella-free, came back smartly with the reply: "They could be, with irradiation."

Yet irradiation would have had no impact at all on the three most recent major food scares — involving salmonella in eggs, listeria in cheese, and botulism in hazelnut purée. Eggs smell "off" and pick up "irradiation flavour" even at low doses. Irradiation is no good for pâté, either. It ruins the texture and flavour. And botulism is caused by a bacterium whose spores resist irradiation at levels which are likely to be authorized.

Irradiation is not new or untried. It has been around since the Swedes experimented with irradiating strawberries in 1916. Patents were taken out for killing parasites in meat with X-rays 60 years ago.

Irradiated food is commercially available in a score of countries, and permitted in a dozen more. Irradiation preserves the grain crop in the Soviet Union, cleans spices in Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Hungary, Israel, The Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, the US and Yugoslavia. In addition the Dutch can buy irradiated dried vegetables, poultry, fish, shrimps, and frog's legs; and the South Africans can have fruit, onions and potatoes.

Irradiation is already used in Britain, too — to sterilize medical equipment and animal foodstuffs.

The process does not make food radioactive. Food is naturally radioactive already, because it contains small quantities of long-lived radionuclides. The natural activity in meat amounts to about 100 becquerels. A sterilizing dose of radiation might induce another 10 becquerels, but because irradiated food is stored longer its natural and induced radioactivity is likely to decay, with the effect that an irradiated meal could actually be up to a third less radioactive than a fresh one.

On the other hand, it is doubtful that irradiation would make food poisoning any less common. It could have the reverse effect. If food starts out highly contaminated with bacteria, irradiation will reduce the numbers of bacteria present without eliminating them. The survivors will then have a free field for rapid multiplication.

There is also the risk that, while removing micro-organisms which make food smell or taste bad, the process could leave behind toxins created by bacteria, such as staphylococcus.

No one knows quite how radiation kills micro-organisms, but we know something about the way in which it affects food. It breaks down celluloses, pectins and starches, so that some fruits and vegetables lose their texture. Tomatoes become squishy; strawberries taste sweeter.

Radiation can also set off chain reactions in fat which may (especially in the presence of oxygen) make food go rancid, so meats are usually irradiated already inside vacuum packs. It is not only animal fats that are affected. Irradiation makes coconuts taste sour, too.

It changes the molecules in the amino acids in ways which are not yet fully understood. One effect, though, is to make meat and poultry smell repulsive, unless the irradiation is carried out at sub-zero temperatures.

It breaks the peptide chains in collagen so that meat loses its texture. Lobsters turn black because radiation forms an amino acid called tyosine. And it destroys varying amounts of vitamins in most foods.

Plainly irradiation is no panacea. Yet when the first irradiated fruit went on sale in the United States, grocers in Florida put out two bins of mangoes — one irradiated, the other fresh, and both clearly identified. The irradiated mangoes sold twice as fast as the fresh ones.

Robin Young

Family travels, up to a point

Victoria Glendinning tags along as P.J. Kavanagh sets out on a personal odyssey overseas in search of his roots

There are 28 Kavanaghs in the index of this marvellous and maddening book. But the P.J. Kavanagh who wrote it — poet, novelist, *Spectator* columnist — found it hard to come to grips with many of them. The searcher, he concludes, must be prepared to face the discovery that there are no connections at all, and the historian must accept lacunae.

Kavanagh, raised in England, Oxford-educated, living for nearly 30 years in Gloucestershire, still felt placeless, rootless — and mysteriously Irish. There was no known network of relations, no family stories, no "connections". Feeling a "need for sequence", he set out to find the connections for himself, travelling and talking and listening and researching in Ireland, Tasmania, New Zealand, and back to Ireland. He went alone. "You cannot try to make yourself of interest under the eye of someone who knows what you are like normally."

In England, "I seemed to belong to no 'class' at all". Kavanagh believed himself to have no social snobbery, or rather to have "that snobbery inverted", so his classlessness should have been a cause for rejoicing. But it made him anxious. And whether in his conspicuous English jacket and tweed hat in Carlow, or in bars and at barbecues down under, he found himself self-conscious, class-conscious even, "shaped by England".

He knew some bare facts about the family before he started — that his great-grandfather had emigrated from Ireland to Van Diemen's Land, and then moved with his family to New Zealand; and that his father had come as a young man to Britain, married here, and stayed.

This is as much a travel book as a family history. Kavanagh writes gloriously, with idiosyncratic punctuation and sentence structure, whether about his own anxiety and loneliness in the Tasmanian bush, the silvery skeletons of dead eucalypts, or Australasian suburbs covering areas as big as English counties. He works backwards into the grim years of the convict settlements (though the Kavanaghs were not convicts) and forwards into the materialistic culture of his New Zealand relatives who have conspicuously bettered themselves.

Kavanagh found out just enough about his family to make sense of himself. He is bored by family trees. It's not that sort of book. He is interested in the differences between people, especially the differences between the English and the Irish, which have to do with the transcendent assumptions of Catholicism (Kavanagh is a Catholic) and with attitudes to authority. All research into family history is a search for oneself, and this book is as autobiographical as the book he published in 1966, *The Perfect Stranger*, written to try to make sense of the death of his first wife, Sally.

FINDING CONNECTIONS
By P.J. Kavanagh
Hutchinson, £14.95

Sally was the novelist Rosamund Lehmann's daughter; the bereaved mother found comfort and salvation through her access to the spirit world. Kavanagh too is surrounded by spirits, but he reaches them through poetry, imagination, and, here, through archives and local lore — which often proves false, under scrutiny. "Nearly all the old stories collapse and few new ones take their place."

His father was Ted Kavanagh, the script-writer for Tommy Handley's ITMA, the most popular comedy programme in the history of radio, the one that is said to have kept the nation sane during the Second World War. Kavanagh quotes with irony the orotund fourth leader in *The Times* on his father's death, all about ITMA as a "manifestation of national character" in time of war. But ITMA was written by a Catholic Irishman reared in New Zealand; its basis was a suspicion of all authority, and all its characters were, in their dotty way, subversive and on the fiddle. Kavanagh *fils* acknowledges that the Irish hijacked Catholicism, even Christianity; the English, maybe, hijacked everything else.

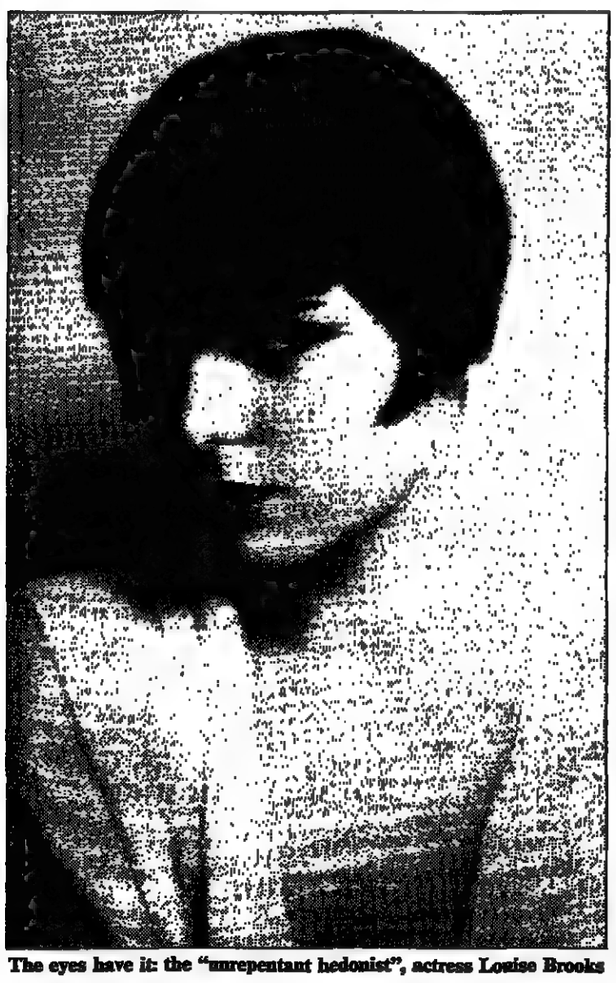
His father never talked about his own past, which was unhappy, fending off questions with jokes. Kavanagh tells a story about what his father said after Sally died which tells you a lot about him. "Now that something terrible has happened to you," he said humbly, "perhaps you'll write comedy?" The instinct to twist despair into humour is one Irish trait that Kavanagh has not inherited. The only joke in this book — that it should be called *O'Roots* — was made by somebody else.

He hardly mentions his mother at all. Maybe if he focused on her, he would find an equally significant inheritance? It might be the missing link. But this is a book about fathers and sons. His new and partial understanding of his paternal forebears has given him "a point to balance on". His balancing act consists in remaining an individual, taking his own path, within a sustaining tradition.

"It is as well to be tentative," writes Kavanagh. He is nothing if not tentative. He blurs his judgements with phrases like "within reasonable limits". He prefers the authority of priests to that of lawyers, or of secular ideologies, "up to a point". Cardinal Cullen made a connection between being Catholic and being Irish, "up to a point". D.H. Lawrence said that people were the same everywhere: "up to a point", concedes Kavanagh. He himself had accepted the authority of the Church "up to a point" — and here we get to the point — "but it was around that point that my life was gathered".

Kavanagh, contemplative and introspective, is a Desert Father. He does not sit on the fence, he balances on a point. It sounds painful, and it obviously is, but he likes it that way. He finds it "an unattractive thought" that anyone could feel wholly at home and comfortable in the world. And again, "it would be no sort of life if we felt entirely comfortable in it".

Put like that, the view from where he sits on his point seems perverse. He isn't exactly saying (which would be reasonable) that life is so cruel that no decent person could feel comfortable in it; but that whatever life's conditions, it's better to be a bit miserable. His conclusion is that in England, for him, the right thing is "to feel a stranger and yet feel at home". Well, that's the human condition, innit? Up to a point.



The eyes have it: the "unrepentant hedonist", actress Louise Brooks

A Lulu of a girl

Chris Petit

LOUISE BROOKS
By Barry Paris
Hamish Hamilton, £20

The appeal of Louise Brooks, that shooting star of the Jazz Age whose crash so spectacularly brings to mind *The Crack-Up*, and Fitzgerald's lament for "the bright shock of a girl I'd never known", runs and runs. Of all the screen goddesses she seemed the most within our sphere. Where Garbo and Dietrich were statuesque and remote, Brooks showed grace (she trained as a dancer) and spontaneity. While they mastered the camera, she submitted to it, and in this trust lay her greatness and her downfall.

Her gaze on screen confirms the power of cinema, of what the French director Robert Bresson called "the ejaculatory force of the eye". But what Brooks craved most was recognition of her intelligence. She ended up in seclusion, writing sharp, painful essays about her uneven career, the Hollywood racket, and film as art. It was these partly that drew Kenneth Tynan to seek her out in 1978, although as his famous *New Yorker* essay showed, he too was lured by that bright shock of what he called "the most seductive, sexual image of Woman ever committed to celluloid".

Brooks suffered her share of bad timing. Her performance as Lulu in what is now regarded as a summit of silent cinema — *Pandora's Box*, filmed in 1928 from Wedekind's play — redefined the art of screen acting, but both she and the film were dismissed by audiences greedy for the novelty of sound.

Live hedonism and naivety were the unconscious components of her Lulu, of what Wedekind called "the personification of primitive sexuality who inspired evil unaware". Her infatuated director, G.W. Pabst, watched Brooks steer a reckless course between the carefree and the careless, and worried that Lulu's tragedy awaited her, which it did in large measure.

The laddish "Brooksie", who had tried to compete with men on their own terms, found herself trading their dubious company for near destitution and a solitary bar stool. Her crack-up was almost identical to that described by Fitzgerald — they were, after all, both children of an age, and victims of early success — a dreadful slow spiral of failure, as protracted as the rise had been fast, with the free spending and gregariousness of the public years collapsing into penury and isolation, into dumb submission, broken up by bursts of alcoholic rage, xenophobia and paranoia.

Like Lulu, Brooks fell into prostitution; unlike her she was saved, most of all by her late determination to become a writer, when she finally turned to her own fractured life for material. She was proud of her writing, as a conscious achievement as opposed to the unconscious one of acting. And how she slaved. The results — as full of insight as they are — have the brittleness of therapy and of material scraped painfully together. In the end she destroyed her autobiographies and chose not to reveal herself beyond cryptic asides. Tynan called her "the only unrepentant hedonist, the only pure pleasure-seeker I think I've ever known".

But Brooks found herself incapable of translating as much into prose. "In writing the history of a life," she wrote, "I believe absolutely that the reader cannot understand the subject unless he is given a basic understanding of that person's sexual loves, and hates, and conflicts . . . I am unwilling to write the sexual truth that would make my life worth reading."

Thus Brooks's own "Rosebud" remains deliberately hidden. Unfortunately, this first biography of her fails to rise to the challenge, not least because of the prose of Barry Paris, master of the pointless sentence: "It was the sort of article in the sort of magazine that English drama critic-author and *bon vivant* Kenneth Tynan would have read had he been in London, which he was not."

He amuses himself with clod-hopping puns at the expense of the reader's patience, already taxed by the sort of exhaustive, dogged chronology that passes now for biography. Brooks's life was too full of ellipses and secret currents to be caught in something so obviously straightforward as this: she more than her biographer would have understood Fitzgerald's thesis that life has a varying offensive. What Paris opts for is a solid trudge that serves only to reinforce the enigma Brooks was so careful to protect. Last laugh, Louise.

Stubborn rise o

Archie Brown

AGAINST THE GRAIN
An Autobiography
By Boris Yeltsin
Translated by Michael Glenny
Jonathan Cape, £12.95

Boris Yeltsin is a new phenomenon in Soviet society — a politician who has been able to make a successful comeback, after falling foul of the Communist Party hierarchy, by enlisting public opinion on his side. The crucial vehicles for his comeback have been competitive elections (introduced at a national level only last year) and the new Soviet legislature which is a very different political institutional body from the rubber-stamp Supreme Soviet of old.

Yeltsin's account of his rise, fall, and rise again is a fascinating one. There are very few memoirs by Soviet politicians who have held office as high as Yeltsin's, and none which contains as much frank comment both on the system and on former colleagues.

Khrushchev's come closest — and because of the power Khrushchev had once wielded are even more important — but they were dictated for foreign publication in the Brezhnev era, and Khrushchev indulged in rather more self-censorship than Yeltsin has permitted himself.

The times, of course, are very different, but if in the Soviet Union they have changed enormously — to the extent that Yeltsin can come to Britain to publicize a book that contains unflattering references to a majority of members of the current Politburo — that is due more than any other person to the man Yeltsin describes as "my perpetual opponent, the lover of half measures and half-steps", Mikhail Gorbachov.

Yeltsin has played his own notable part in the radicalization of the Soviet political agenda, but he recognizes that in the transition to the kind of part-authoritarian, part-pluralist political system to be found in the Soviet Union today, Gorbachov played a decisive role. He launched *perestroika*, says Yeltsin, while still surrounded by people determined to preserve the old order who "might have eaten any general secretary alive without so much as a hiccup". But Gorbachov outmanoeuvred them with "amazing finesse".

Finesse is not Yeltsin's most obvious attribute. But he has other qualities, amply demonstrated in recent years, which emerge clearly in his book. They include courage, honesty, an independence of spirit, and immense stubbornness. Yeltsin could not have got a quarter of the reform through the Politburo and the Central Committee that Gorbachov has. But now that Soviet citizens have become a significant force in political life, Yeltsin is a force to be reckoned with.

The most popular plank in his programme is his opposition to privilege and to the party apparatus. The authority of the latter is unlikely to recover from the advent of competitive elections — and it is to the court of public opinion that Yeltsin has been able to appeal against his rough treatment at the hands of former colleagues in the Soviet leadership.

Nothing in this book (except heroic volleyball when young in the Urals) suggests, though, that Yeltsin is one of nature's team-players. Acceptance of other people's decisions, and abiding by norms of collective solidarity, do not come easily to him. If he could

Surviving to make a home from home

CHILDREN

Brian Alderson

AGAINST THE STORM
By Gaye Hicyilmaz
Illustrated by Mei-Yim Law
Viking, £7.99

Apparently the editors in the children's book division of Viking receive almost 80 unsolicited manuscripts a week; and apparently, after due process, almost 80 a week are returned as unacceptable. What therefore must they have thought when they started on *Against the Storm*: "Mehmet did not understand how anyone could talk of going away in the spring . . ." — a low-key opening to a story set in Turkey by an unknown author with an unpronounceable name?

Well, it may be low-key, but it is direct; and as Mehmet is drawn into his parents' ill-considered scheme to go and live in Ankara, the directness and the acute observation of Gaye Hicyilmaz carry the reader with him. Quite apart from leaving the place that ought to be home, there is the problem of smuggling Korsan along — an Anatolian shepherd-dog, not easy to hide on a Turkish bus. And when the family and Korsan settle down in their grisly, jerry-built quarters, there are multiplying problems — making a living, for one thing, and, for another, finding a *modus vivendi* with Uncle Yusuf and his frightful family.

The small, passionate complications of this new life are not susceptible to easy fictive solutions (even though a fairy godmother of a kind does put in an appearance). Terrible things happen: illness, humiliation, death. But Mehmet is a survivor, and as the book closes, "a sort of justice" has been done, and a satisfying victory achieved.

It is a sort of justice too for Viking, that in all the dire traffic of unpublishable manuscripts something as fresh and as powerful as this should emerge.

Off to his W

HIST

Philipp

SHARPE'S
By Bernard
Collins

Two men are riding to a battle. One is a tall, handsome, happy young man in the scarlet and blue of the Life Guards, on a beautiful black horse. The other is also a tall man, dark with a scarred face, wearing patched French cavalry boots, carrying two rifles, a pistol and a cavalry sword, and with a faded, patched green jacket in which he has fought his way up the ranks in the army.

Readers of the 10 earlier books on his career will recognize Richard Sharpe. He has just been appointed a lieutenant-colonel in the Fifth Belgium Light Dragoons, commanded by the Prince of Orange.

It is part of Bernard Cornwell's achievement in this series that it has never flagged, and there never seems to be any padding. Each book has been focused on a particular battle, which has given the whole a framework on which the personal side of Sharpe's life (often disastrous) has been interwoven with his working life as a soldier in Wellington's armies.

The Duchess of Richmond's ball in Brussels is set to be a fair disaster for Sharpe — his estranged wife Jane and her lover, Lord John Rossendale (the handsome young man in the Life Guards), both intend to be there.

Moreover, the Vicomtesse de Seleglise, with whom Sharpe has been living in her Château Ferme in France, and who is the mother of his four-month-old son, has also received an invitation.

The weather was beautiful the day it began, with Sharpe observing a very large number of French troops crossing the border into Belgium and barely escaping with his life. Information was scarce, intelligence was very poor. There are many accounts of the battle of Waterloo, fought by an enormous army loyal to the Emperor faced by the British Army and its none-too-keen allies. There is a brilliant and terrifying description of the whole of the French Army set out in the sun, and for Sharpe, the first sight of the Emperor.

The downpours of rain, the odd encounters in the battle between friend and enemy, the fact (rather than the legend) that the men killed incompetent officers, cups of tea (or "smouch") brewed on the battlefield, the horror of death and injury, the broad sweep of charge and counter-charge, the devastating fire that finally defeated the French

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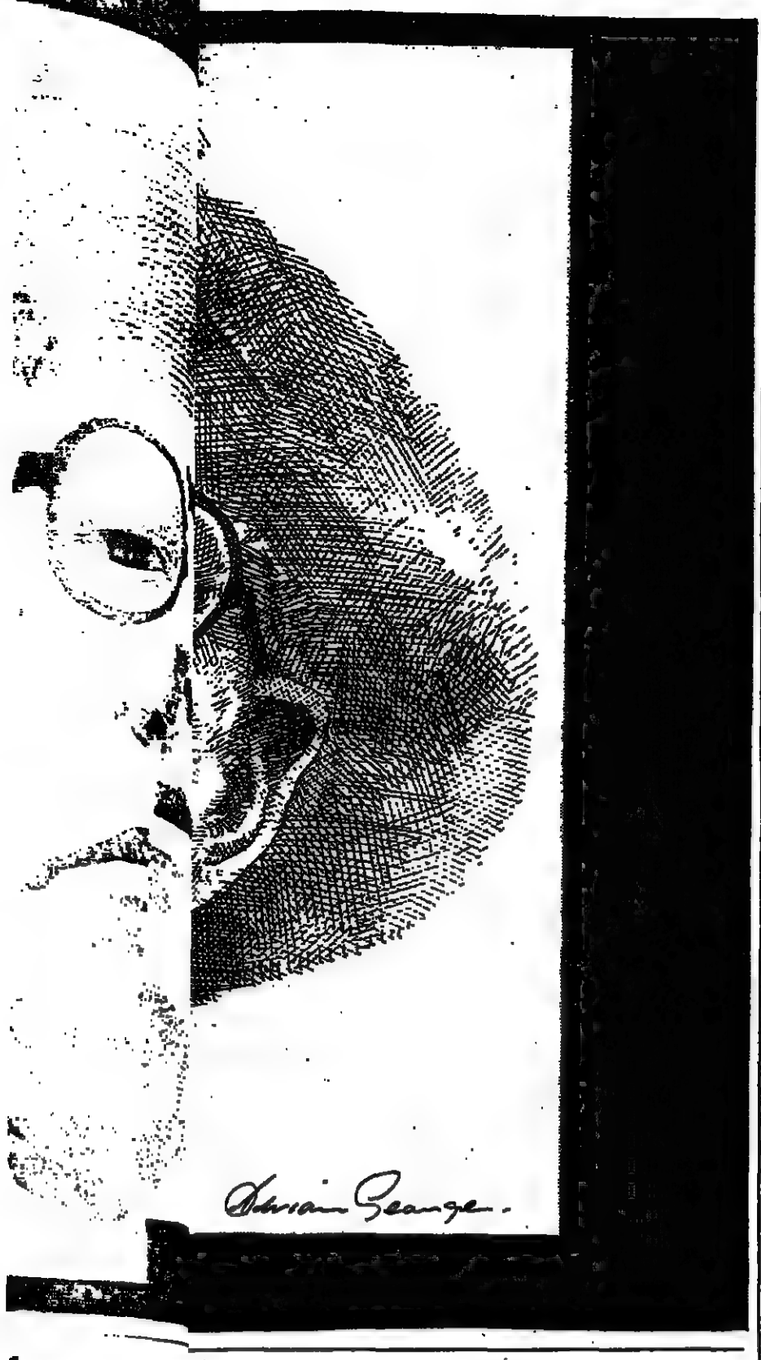

PAPERBACKS

Eastern promises

Jasper Rees on an anthology of European writing already out of date

THE NEW EUROPE
Granta/Penguin, £5.99

We know more about Eastern Europe than we did a year ago, though not as much as we will another year on. When most of the freshly minted literature which is daily contributing to our enlightenment has been forgotten, this latest issue of Granta will still be regarded as an important document.

The pole-positioning of a travel essay by the novelist Graham Swift at the front of the issue implicitly acknowledges our ignorance of the other half of the continent. Swift travelled to Prague at the time of November's peaceful revolution to seek out and interview a missing writer, Jiri Wolf, who had been imprisoned for 10 years. While the labyrinthine search has satisfying elements of suspense and intrigue, what gives the piece its character is the naïvety of the searcher – liberal and compassionate, but ultimately lost on the sidelines as the great events unfold.

Through no fault of his own, Swift has been overtaken, like the entire issue itself, by time's winged chariot, which is no respecter of copy deadlines and production schedules. George Steiner admits as much in the opening paragraph of his contribution: "I am writing this note on 5 December 1989. It may be absurdly dated by the time it appears." The note which follows is part of an impressive anthology of reflective articles (among the other contributors are Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Isaiah Berlin, Czeslaw Milosz, Ivan Klima and Stephen Spender) collected under the title "The State of Europe: Christmas Eve 1989". By that date, the day before the Ceausescus were executed, the Romanian poet Mircea Dinescu had been seen in news bulletins throughout the world participating in the hijack of the nation's television network; when he wrote his piece for *Granta*, which pessimistically examines the possibilities for life after Stalinism, he was still under house arrest.

The rapid turn of events does not invalidate Dinescu's contribution any more than it does the rest of the issue. Several of the pieces in this section are specifically about time, not just its winged chariot but also its slow coach. The novelist Josef Skvorecky points out that although 1989's upheaval came at the right moment for Czechoslovakia's 20-year-olds, and perhaps even her 40-year-olds, it arrived too late to fulfil the dreams of her 60-year-olds. (One yearns to know if it is too late for Skvorecky to terminate his long exile.) Noel Annan, who supervised the creation of political parties in the British sector of Berlin, and Werner Krätschell, a prominent Protestant clergyman in East Berlin, are eloquent on the city's long cultural refrigeration.

The one dismally false note is provided by Tony Benn, who invokes the great Soviet achievements since 1917 and cites 1989 as the year the workers were betrayed. But if writing about the East does not show the western socialist in the most favourable light, there are others who fare better. For eastern novelists there is the long-awaited chance to publish and not be damned. Victoria Tokareva and Ludmilla Petrushevskaya, who, the notes on contributors inform us, "are regarded as being in the vanguard of a new generation of Soviet fiction writers", contribute witty but pained short stories about living and loving in cramped apartments.

For western historians the time has finally come to turn their attention from systems to peoples, from the unreal overview to the microscopic examination. Neal Ascherson's "The Borderlands", which describes the potent ethnic mix in a little-visited corner on the Polish-Byelorussian border, is as informative and clear-headed a piece of writing on the subject as one could wish for.

Nanny knows best

Anna Bramwell

LIVING IN THE SHADOW: The Story of the People of Sellafield
By Jean McSorley
Pan, £5.99

This book could hardly be more timely, since the most recent official survey shows a dramatic link between workers at Sellafield and leukaemia in their children. For over three decades now, the radiation at Sellafield has been the subject of a folklore which shifted from wry jokes and rumours about giant lobsters in the late 1950s, to the persistent allegation of higher than average cancer rates among workers and local residents by the late 1970s.

Jean McSorley's book is written around the testimony of workers at the plant and locals who suffered from cancer, or whose relatives did. These are harrowing stories, not only because of the subject, but because of the patient and uncomplaining way in which these working-class people accept the dishonesty, inefficiency and inattention of those placed in authority to look after their interests. Although McSorley's record as a long-term campaigner leads one to expect a partisan approach, there is no note of hysteria, and the effect is clear, convincing and moving.

The conclusions drawn from this book are not necessarily that nuclear power is wrong, or even especially hazardous in itself. Other forms of energy production, such as coal, have vastly higher rates of sickness, death and injury. McSorley shows very fairly that most of the locals and workers welcome the plant, the jobs, the high pay, and resent the anti-nuclear activists. In an area of traditional hardship and chronic unemployment, that is hardly surprising. But they should have the right to be informed of the dangers so they can make decisions about risk and reward in an informed manner.

The main lesson is to continue to press for less secrecy and more responsiveness in British government, and less sloth and carelessness from the medical, union and administrative establishments.

After Chernobyl, the rapid reaction of the West German government helped avoid a backlash against nuclear power. Here, the authorities have barely admitted that there is a problem, just as, according to Ms McSorley, they have failed to tell us that 800 local farms were contaminated with strontium-90.p

Why? They don't want the bother and the fuss. They don't want to have to compensate those affected. The "we know best" attitude of the early welfare state has combined with the new brutalism of the nuclear power industry to lead to a shoddy, secretive meanness, which is frightening in its arrogance.

The cover-up is not necessary. It never was. And despite the obviously partisan approach of books like these, they are essential to the process of controlling the nanny state, an incompetent nanny who goes off and gets drunk with the other nannies while the children stuff their mouths with rags.

Rural scene: George Birkett clipping a Herdwick ewe in Little Langdale, an illustration from Melvyn Bragg's guide to the Lake District, Land of the Lakes, *published in paperback next week (Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95)*

born in Soviet citizen

k comment: Boris Yeltsin pays tribute to his "perpetual opponent"

transported the same person- to a different system, it is ptful if he would have lasted a nent longer in Mrs Thatcher's net than in Mr Gorbachov's eadership team.

t since the Soviet Union has a surfeit of hierarchical rdination and collective larity over the years, Yeltsin's ting of the rules of the game has h to commend it.

ere is, however, little in the t to suggest that Yeltsin has got quick answers to improving et living standards, which he es Gorbachov for failing to duce. He oversimplifies, when uggests that last year's miners' es provided an opportunity to introduce the radical economic reform which is still only very partially implemented. Instant radical reform would have put many of the miners out of a job.

If I find little or no evidence in Against the Grain that Yeltsin could have led the Soviet Union in recent years more successfully than Gorbachev, that is not to devalue his contribution. To help turn the Soviet parliament *into a serious* critic of the executive, and to help put political substance into the officially-proclaimed "pluralism of opinion" may yet turn out tobe Yeltsin's most important achievements. A healthy *political system* should not only tolerate but cherish its Yeltsins.

Teasing tales of optimism

FICTION

Frances Hill

EVA LUNA
By Isabel Allende
Penguin, £4.99

Isabel Allende's worldwide popularity is not hard to understand. She tells fascinating tales, full of adventure, pathos and love. Her characters are well-drawn and amusingly eccentric, often almost Dickensian. The tone is uplifting, full of compassion, humour and warmth, but rarely sentimental. This novel has the additional charm of a girl-child, at the mercy of circumstances, as heroine. The narrator's younger self, Eva Luna, sees the world with a brave, innocent eye and makes the reader anxious for her welfare and keen to follow her fortunes.

These fortunes begin with her birth "in the back room of a shadowy house . . . amidst ancient furniture, books in Latin, and human mummies . . ." in the capital town of an unnamed South American country. Her mother was the servant of an eccentric embalmer and her father an Indian dying of a snakebite. After her mother's demise from swallowing a chickenbone Eva was sent out to work as a servant herself, at the age of seven, by her godmother. Her later adventures include living in a brothel under the benign care of the inventor of an automatic telescoping penis. Through her involvement with a guerrilla leader Eva helps mount an operation to release the inmates of a local prison. In the end she meets and marries her soulmate, a television news reporter. Meanwhile, during all these adventures, she has told stories to anyone who will listen and eventually becomes a writer of television serials.

Allende is loved for many of the same reasons as were the great popular novelists of past centuries. Some modern readers, used to trim works with at least as much theme as story, may find the picaresque narrative tiresome. As one tale follows another they may wonder if the book passes the "so what?" test.

And some may find the optimistic tone uncongenial. The name "Eva" means life, and the character of Eva represents the acceptance and celebration of life in all aspects. The kindly brothel-keeper had intended to shield Eva from the seamier side but abandoned the attempt when "she found me ready to devour the world, errors and all".

The heroine, despite her early trials, is extraordinarily well-adjusted. She forgives everyone who has harmed her. But then, she tells us, "when I write, I describe life as I would like it to be".

What is very modern about this book is the author's teasing. The narrator constantly reminds us that she is a professional tale-spinner and we have no reason to trust her. At the end she lays her cards on the table and they are all jokers.

"Later, for a judicious period of time, we loved each other more modestly until that love wore thin and nothing was left but shreds.

"Or maybe that isn't how it happened. Perhaps we had the good fortune to stumble into an exceptional love . . ."

For the reader who takes to the combination of good old-fashioned story-telling and post-modern consciousness, this novel is unbeatable. The only flaw is the occasional lapse from shrewd, humorous acceptance of life to cloying sweetness.

QUICK LIST

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

FICTION

Dalva, by Jim Harrison (Picador, £4.99). Mythic portrait of America from Indian wars to Vietnam.

Sunrising, by David Cook (Arena, £4.99). Romantic and radical historical of Cath among the values of Dickensian London.

My Madness, The Selected Writings of Anna Kavan, edited by Brian W. Aldiss (Picador Classics, £6.99). Sci-fi dislocations.

NON-FICTION

Antaeus, Literature as Pleasure, ed. by Daniel Halpern (Collins Harvill, £8.95) Writers reading.

Horseman and Tears, A year in John Dunlop's racing stable, by Simon Barnes (Mandarin, £3.99).

Milena, by Margarete Buber-Neumann, translated by Ralph Manheim (Collins Harvill, £5.95) Life of Kafka's great love told by fellow-prisoner in Ravensbrück.

Neural Darwinism, by Gerald M. Edelman (Oxford, £9.95). Nobel laureate's neuronal vision of how the brain develops and functions.

Original species

Lynne Truss

PASSING ON
By Penelope Lively
Penguin, £4.99

KILLING TIME/ MAKING A SNOWMAN
By Alice Thompson/Simon Rees
Penguin Original, £4.99

Habitat. It is hard to remember now, but what did the word mean before Terence Conran got hold of it and turned it forever into an invocation of pine beds and cheap table lamps? The central characters in Penelope Lively's Passing On are simple, middle-aged, provincial folk, who have never in their lives coveted a "Lotus-Flower cotton dhurrie" or a "Sintra occasional table", but they are as intimately identified with their habitat as are the beasts of the field or the birds of the air.

In this superb novel, Lively takes what you might call a David-Bellamy's-eye-view of her characters. She presents Helen and Edward Glover (sister and brother aged 52 and 49) as an endangered species, and observes them at close quarters in hushed but excited tones. At the beginning of the book, their mother has just "passed on", but, as we come to realize, the title has further implications, since everything else in the world has "passed on", too. Stranded by progress, the Glovers are dupes of a pathetic fallacy – they have grown up believing that if you leave nature alone, it will behave like a gent and return the favour. But, as their dog Tam repeatedly demonstrates, nature isn't like that.

They are stuck in the mud good and proper; but they like it. Thus their house is practically a ruin, and their piece of land a virtual jungle. Brother and sister obstinately resist the suggestion – made often by their younger sibling Louise, and the local entrepreneur Ron Paget – that they "adapt". They would rather risk extinction than upset the only ecological system they know.

It is no surprise that their fear and inertia can be traced back to Mum – a woman whom Edward remembers from infancy as "armour-plated, like the rhino in London Zoo". To Helen, she is more like a parrot, squawking out an incessant stream of ridicule, unstoppable even by death. "You make me laugh," her mother continues to tell her from beyond the grave. "Who do you think you're fooling?" In the end, both Helen and Edward – through the pain of admitting, and acceding to, their own desires – shake off Mother a little, and start to live. Like weeds forcing their way through concrete, their own "passing on" is painful and involuntary, but biologically inescapable.

There are nasty inner voices, too, in both Alice Thompson's Killing Time, and Simon Rees's Making a Snowman. Joined together in a volume that might usefully be titled "It's A Funny Old World When You're a Schiz", both are feverish first-person survival fantasies, and both suggest authors who rush out of the house each morning and tell their dreams to the first person they see.

Killing Time is the less impressive work. A woman called Cora, haunted by an incestuous episode, rides the Underground, and is picked up by a young man who lives permanently in tunnels (he has a pad somewhere downtrack of Oxford Circus). The story – involving murder, doubles, and beautiful people with long hair – is impenetrable, and the 48 short chapters go kerchunking past with all the charm and excitement of an out-of-service train leaving you stranded at Hendon Central.

If you want the voice of authentic loony, turn to *Making a Snowman*, where the narrator is in thrall to his own skeleton – "the bone-man". He longs to be rid of this tyrant: "I would hand him over, to be filleted out of me, drawn from my flesh like a carcase of a goose boned for roasting." Again, it is hard to make sense of the story – but who cares? After reading Simon Rees, you literally see *right through people*: "empty as a basket or a birdcage, a woven thing of twigs and wires, held together by shadows at the joints". Never has fiction shown me the world in such a bony light.

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narrative with great skill. Although we know the outcome it is still, in Wellington's words, "the nearest run thing you ever saw in your life" – and the author manages to make us hat it was indeed so.

arden of the Queen's March, Nigel Tranter (Hodder & ghton, £12.95). Seeing Mary n of Scots disembarking on a day in August, Thomas Kerr, her 18, was her man for life. and heir of a Border chief of a trooping clan, Thomas stayed to Mary – unlike practically one else in this tale of hery and self-seeking, seen igh the eyes of a man who was courtier. The 80-year-old or's energy never flags in his book.

Ik and Stone, by Dinah Dean ie & Jenkins, £12.95). What gently bred Norman girl do if she neither wants to marry nor, as her family has decreed, go into a convent? Lady Elys finds the solution on a pilgrimage to Rome, where she falls in with a party that includes Aylwyn of Winchester, a Saxon master mason. In the middle of the war between Stephen and Matilda, Elys becomes a professional embroiderer for the great church at Waltham Abbey. A pleasant, agreeably written novel, based on the historical facts of life in those unpleasant times.

● **Lottie Trayo**, by E.V. Thompson (Macmillan, £12.95). Sixth in a series on the Retallick family of Cornwall: Josh and Miriam Retallick return from Africa to find the mining industry almost at a standstill. Trouble at the mine indeed. To the background of copper, tin, and finally arsenic mining, mixed with Methodism and early trade unionism, various romances come to their predictable conclusions.

● **Whilom**, by Robert Watson (Bloomsbury, £13.99). Take Shakespeare's well-known play, set it in the Athens of Theseus and not the Warwickshire countryside, shake it up well, continue the story of the lovers and Theseus and his Amazonian queen Hippolyta. Provide Nick Bottom the weaver with a close working relationship with the fairies, and a talking donkey, and you find a sport among historical novels – and very good fun, too.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

Continued on page 61

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sat 10 Mar 7.30	**RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN GALA,** London Concert Orchestra, Neil Richardson (cond), Lorna Dallas, Martin McEvoy, Neil Richardson Singers. Music from Oklahoma! South Pacific, The King and I, Carousel, The Sound of Music £15.50, £14, £12.50 £11 £8.50 £6.50 Raymond Gubbay
Sun 11 Mar 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Gennadi Rozhdestvensky (cond) Dmitri Alexeev (piano) Schubert Ov. Alfonso and Estrella; Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 2; Brahms/Schoenberg Piano Quartet in G min Op.25 (arr for orch). £25 £15, £10, £7, £3 London Philharmonic Enterprises
Mon 12 Mar 7.30	**THE PHILHARMONIA** Giuseppe Sinopoli (conductor) Mischa Maisky (cello) Elgar Introduction and Allegro for Strings; Cello Concerto; Symphony No 1. £12, £8, £5, £3 (ONLY) Philharmonia Ltd
Tue 13 Mar 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Gennadi Rozhdestvensky (cond) Shlomo Mintz (violin) Rachmaninov-Respighi Five études-tableaux; Prokofiev Violin Concerto No. 2; Dvorák Symphonic Variations; Rimsky-Korsakov Capriccio Espagnol £25, £10, £3 (ONLY) London Philharmonic Enterprises
Wed 14 Mar 7.30	**THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY** Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Norman Del Mar (cond) Dmitri Hvorostovsky (bar) (Winner, Cardiff Singer of the World 1989) Prog incl Tchaikovsky Operatic arias, Strauss Symphonia domestica £15, £12.50 £10 £7.50, £5 £3.50 RPS
Thu 15 Mar 7.30	**THE PHILHARMONIA** Giuseppe Sinopoli (conductor) Kyung Wha Chung (violin) Ravel Valses nobles et sentimentales; Sibelius Violin Concerto; Schoenberg Pelleas und Melisande. £12, £8, £5, £3 (ONLY) Philharmonia Ltd
Fri 16 Mar 7.30	**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Andrew Davis (conductor) Moray Welsh (cello) Harrison Birtwistle Machaut à ma manière (Brit prem). Hugh Wood Scenes from Comus. Elgar Symphony No 2. £14, £10.50, £7, £3 BBC

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sat 10 Mar 7.45	**CREOLE CLARINETS** The music of Johnny Dodds, Jimmy Noone and Sidney Bechet. Randolph Colville (clarinet) Mac White (clarinet/sop sax). Martin Litton's Wasry City Six play music of the great New Orleans clarinetists. £9.50, £8, £6.50, £5 Michael Webber Promotions
Sun 11 Mar 3.00	**PURCELL SCHOOL ORCHESTRA** Peter Stark (cond) David Vinden (cond) Soong Choo (violin). Elgar In the South; Bruch Violin Concerto No. 2; Brahms Symphony No. 2. £10, £8, £6, £4, £2.50 Erica Goddard
Sun 11 Mar 7.45	**DAPHNE: RICHARD STRAUSS** concert perf in German. Norman Del Mar (cond) Teresa Cahill (Daphne) Kenneth Woollam (Apollo) Hilary Summers (cont) Justin Lavender (ten) Brian Bannatyne-Scott (bas) Chelsea Opera Group Chorus & Orch. £8, £5 (ONLY) Chelsea Opera Group
Tue 13 Mar 7.45	**CANTABILE** Britain's liveliest & most versatile vocal group present their new show, ranging from musical hits by Lloyd Webber, Gershwin & Sondheim to songs from the fifties. £8.50, £6.50 (ONLY) The Jolly Good Production Company
Wed 14 Mar 7.45	**AN EVENING WITH IAN BOTHAM.** David English (compere) Ian Botham, cricketer, entertainer & folk hero, comes to the South Bank for one evening of film & conversation, about his life & work "against the odds" £8.50, £7.50, £6.50 Speakout
Thu 15 Mar 7.45	**ELECTRIC PHOENIX** Contemporary Music Network. Works by Daryl Runswick, Samuel Scheidt, Henri Pousseur, Orlando Gibbons, William Brooks, John Cage & Trevor Wishart. Pre-concert talk 6.15 QEH. £7.50, £5.50 (concessions £3.50) South Bank Centre-Arts Council of GB
Fri 16 Mar 7.45	**LONDON SINFONIETTA** Oliver Knussen (cond) Lisa Saffer (sop) Christopher van Kampen (cel) John Harle (sax). Lloyd Carbque, Turnage On All Fours, Knussen Sym No. 2. Benjamin A Mind of Winter, Goehr Sinfonia. £12.50, £9.50, £6.50, £4.50, £2.50 Sinfonietta Prods.

PURCELL ROOM

Sat 10 Mar 8.00	**WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND** Evelyn Nallen (recorder) with Pamela Nash and Maurice Hodges. Music for recorder, harpsichord, piano, busker and tap dancer. Works by Arnold, Hopkins, Langford, Malone, Rubbra & Wilby. £7.50, £5.50, £4 Seaview Music
Sun 11 Mar 3.15	**SZYMANOWSKI SERIES** Konstanty Kulka (violin) Iain Burnside (piano) Szymanowski Sonata in D min Op 9. Bartok Sonata for solo violin; Szymanowski; Mythes; Wieniawski Polonaise No. 1 in D, Op 4, Scherzo-tarantelle in G min Op 16 £6.50, £5.50, £3.50 South Bank Centre
Sun 11 Mar 8.00	**LONDON CHINESE ORCHESTRA** An evening of delicate & beautiful classical & folk music from China. Prog incl solo by Prof. Li Xiangting, master of guqin, a 7-stringed instrument played by the Chinese literati circa 1000 BC All seats £4 Chinese Cultural Centre
Mon 12 Mar 8.00	**BADINAGE** J. C. Bach Trio Sonata, Op 2 2; Beethoven Trio in G, WO 37 Devienne Flute Sonata Op 68 5, Mozart Piano Variations on Ah vous dirai-je, maman, K. 265. Duo Sonata K. 292 (arr for bassoon, cello & fortepiano) £7, £5.75, £4 Music Management (UK) Ltd
Tue 13 Mar 8.00	**JUNGES DEUTSCHES BLAESERQUINTETT** Ibert Trois pièces brèves; Reicha Quintet in E fl; Hindemith Kleine Kammermusik; Barber Summer Music; Mozart Fantasia for a mechanical organ; Ravel Le tombeau de Couperin £5 (concs £3) Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Wed 14 Mar 8.00	**KALMAN BERKES** (clarinet) **PIERS LANE** (piano) Weber Grand duo Concertante, Brahms Sonata in E flat Op. 120, No. 2; Bartók Romanian Folk Dances; Weiner 2 Folk Dances; Ballade, Poulenc Sonata £5, £3 Goddard Concert Trust
Thu 15 Mar 8.00	**MAISIE LEWIS YOUNG ARTISTS' FUND RECITAL** Schumann 6 songs from Liederkreis; Debussy Chansons de Bilitis; Ravel Miroirs; Schoenberg Four Songs Op. 2; Rachmaninov 4 Songs, Janácek Piano Son. Chopin Scherzo No. 4 in E. £4, £3, £2 Worshipful Company of Musicians

City of Westminster WIGMORE HALL

36 Wigmore Street London W1H 9DF
Manager William Lyne MBE Box office 01 935 2141 Mailing list £4

Saturday 10 March 7.30 pm	**MARJANA LIPOVŠEK** mezzo soprano. **GEOFFREY PARSONS** piano. Song Recital Series. Schumann: Liederkreis Op.39; Brahms: 5 songs; Mussorgsky: The Nursery (1868-72). £10 (all others sold) HoM
Sunday 11 March 11.30 am	**FRANZ SCHUBERT QUARTET** of Vienna. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Mozart: Eine kleine Nachtmusik K525; Brahms: String Quartet No.3 in B flat Op.67. £4 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice
Sunday 11 March NB:starting time:4pm	**WALTER KLIEN** piano. London Pianoforte Series. Berg: Sonata Op.1, Mozart: Sonata in C minor K457, Janácek: Sonata I.X.1905 "A street scene", Schubert: Sonata No 20 in A D959 £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Goddard Concert Trust
Monday 12 March 7.30 pm	**TAKAYOSHI WANAMI** violin **MINEKO TSUCHIYA** piano. Schubert: Sonata in A D574, JS Bach: Solo Sonata in C BWV1005, Messiaen: Thème et Variations (1931); Debussy: Sonata (1917); Ravel: Sonata (1923-7). £7, £6, £5, £4 Mark Bonello Management
Tuesday 13 March 7.30 pm	**ANNA STEIGER** soprano **FRANCOIS LE ROUX** baritone **ROGER VIGNOLES** piano. Song Recital Series. Hugo Wolf 130th Birthday Concert. Hugo Wolf: The Italian Songbook (complete). £7.50, £6 (all others sold) HoM
Wednesday 14 March 7.30 pm	**MICHAEL CHANCE** countertenor **ROBERT SPENCER** lute. Early Music & Baroque Series. Seventeenth Century English Ayres, including music by Dowland, Purcell, John Blow, Pelham Humfrey & Henry Lawes. £8, £7, £6, £5 Lies Askonas Ltd
Thursday 15 March 7.30 pm	**CAMERATA WIND SOLOISTS. JANET HILTON** director. Mozart: Serenade No 12 in C minor K388, Adagio in C K580a, Canonic Adagio in F K410, Serenade No. 11 in E flat K375, Malcolm Arnold: Divertimento (1st London perf) £7, £6, £5, £4
Friday 16 March 7.30 pm	**ANDREW SHERWOOD** violin. **PAUL GREGORY** guitar. Vivaldi: Sonata Op.2 No. 1; Coste: Le Montagnard Op.34, Paganini: Grande Sonata; Rodrigo: Serenata de Alba; P. Gregory: Carlos among the Candles; Stephen Fonk Pearson: Mountain Moor, & duos by Barry Mills & Peter Copley (1st performances). £7, £6, £5, £4
Saturday 17 March 7.30 pm	**STEVEN ISSERLIS** cello **GUILDHALL STRING ENSEMBLE. ROBERT SALTER** director. Dvorák: Notturno in B Op 40; Boccherini: Cello Concerto in G. Bloch: Scenes from Jewish life (cello & string orchestra). Suk: Serenade for Strings in E flat Op. 6 (1892). £8, £7, £6, £5 HoM
Sunday 18 March 11.30 am	**ST JAMES'S BAROQUE PLAYERS. IVOR BOLTON** director. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Soloists: Lorna Anderson / Jonathan Kenny / Mark Tucker / Peter Harvey. Wedding Music by the Bach Family. JC Bach: Meine Freundin, du bist schön; JS Bach: 2 Wedding Cantatas No 202 and BWV196 £4 incl. prog. & coffee/sherry/juice
Sunday 18 March NB:starting time: 4 pm	**MEDICI QUARTET / ALBERNI QUARTET.** Strauss: Quartet in B flat K458 "The Hunt". Beethoven: String Quartet in C Op. 59 No 3 "Rasumovsky", Mendelssohn: Octet in E flat Op 20 £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Lies Askonas Ltd
Monday 19 March 7.30 pm	**OLAF BAER** baritone **GEOFFREY PARSONS** piano. CONCERT CANCELLED. TICKET MONEY REFUNDED ON RECEIPT OF TICKETS
Tuesday 20 March 7.30 pm	**MUSICA BRITANNICA. A 70th BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE TO GEOFFREY BUSH.** Songs by Sullivan, Lehmann, Parry, Stanford, Ireland and Geoffrey Bush. Lillian Watson, Anthony Rolfe Johnson, Henry Herford and Graham Johnson. £8, £7, £6, £5 Management: Ron Gonsalves
Wednesday 21 March 7.30 pm	**BRUCE BRUBAKER** piano. Haydn: Sonata in C HXVI:50; Mark-Anthony Turnage: Entranced (1982) (1st London perf). Roger Sessions: Sonata No. 2 (1946). Schumann: Fantasiestücke Op. 12 £7, £6, £5, £4 Management: Grapevine
Thursday 22 March 7.30 pm	**TRAGICOMEDIA/STEPHEN STUBBS** director. **JOHN POTTER** tenor. **THOMAS ALBERT** violin. Orpheus I am: settings of the Orpheus legend by Landi & Monteverdi & music by Coperario, W Lawes, Pelham Humfrey; Robert Johnson & Purcell (Air on a Ground, O let me weep). £7, £6, £5, £4 Early Music Network
Friday 23 March 7.30 pm	**KELLER QUARTET** of Budapest. International Chamber Music. Debussy: String Quartet in G minor Op. 10; Bartók: Quartet No. 2 (1915-17). Schubert: Quartet in D minor D810 "Death & the Maiden" £7, £6, £5, £4 HoM

WIGMORE HALL **TOMORROW at 4 pm**

A recital by the distinguished Austrian pianist

WALTER KLIEN

Mozart • Berg • Janacek • Schubert

for details please see Wigmore panel

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the ROYAL ALBERT HALL

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- IL TROVATORE Anvil Chorus
- L'ELISIR D'AMORE Una furtiva lagrima
- BARBER OF SEVILLE Largo al factotum
- CARMEN Toreador's Song & Chorus, Habanera & Chorus from Act 4
- PEARL FISHERS Duet
- NABUCCO Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves
- LA BOHÈME Your Tiny Hand Is Frozen *
- RIGOLETTO La donna è mobile & Quartet
- GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG Siegfried's Rhine Journey*
- GIANNI SCHICCHI O my beloved Father
- LOHENGRIN Wedding Chorus
- LAKME Flower Duet
- AIDA Grand March
- THAÏS Meditation
- I PAGLIACCI On with the Motley †
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RECORDING FEATURING THE RPO, ROH CHORUS & ARTISTS APPEARING IN THESE CONCERTS - Out June 4

OPERA SPECTACULAR

Verdi: GRAND MARCH Aida, ANVIL CHORUS Il Trovatore, LA DONNA E MOBILE Rigoletto CHORUS OF THE HEBREW SLAVES Nabucco Bizet: THE PEARLFISHERS DUET TOREADOR'S SONG Carmen; Puccini: NESSUN DORMA Turandot, ONE FINE DAY Madam Butterfly O MY BELOVED FATHER Gianni Schicci Mascagni: INTERMEZZO Cavalleria Rusticana Leoncavallo: ON WITH THE MOTLEY Pagliacci Gounod: SOLDIERS' CHORUS Faust Borodin: POLOVTSIAN DANCES Prince Igor Wagner: PILGRIMS' CHORUS Tannhauser THE RIDE OF THE VALKYRIE

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Tomor 11 March 4.00pm	**VERDI REQUIEM** Westminster Philharmonic Orchestra Jonathan Butcher cond Kathleen Livingstone sop. Margaret Cable contr Adrian Thompson ten. John Noble bass Concordia of Crawley £12 £10 £8 £6 £4 *In aid of the British Council for Prevention of Blindness*
Tomor 11 March 7.30pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Mstislav Rostropovich cond. Andrei Gavrilov piano Shostakovich: Jazz Suite No 1 Rachmaninov: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini Shostakovich: Symphony No 11 £20 £16.50 £13 ONLY *LSC Ltd*
Mon 12 March 7.45pm	**RUGGERO RAIMONDI** Moscow Conservatoire Orchestra Leonid Nikolaiev cond. An evening of Russian and Italian opera Prog. inc. excerpts from La Kovanchina, Boris Godounov, Sadko, Prince Igor, Eugene Onegin, Life for the Tsar, Don Carlos £15 £13 £11 £9 £6 £4 *Harold Holt Ltd*
Tues 13 March 7.45pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** John Farrer cond Ruth Waterman violin Mozart: Ov Don Giovanni Barber: Adagio for Strings Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto Pachelbel: Canon Mozart: Symphony No 40, K550 £12.50 £11 ONLY *RPO Ltd*
Thurs 15 March 7.45pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Mstislav Rostropovich cond Paul Edmund-Davies flute Osian Ellis harp Shostakovich: Symphony No 2 Mozart: Concerto for Flute and Harp, K299 Shostakovich: Symphony No 5 £20 £16.50 £13 £10.50 £7.50 £4.50 *LSO Ltd*
Fri 16 March 7.45pm	**CRACOW PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI** cond Grigory Zhyslin viola Penderecki: Passacaglia Viola Concerto; Symphony No 2 £16 £13 £10 £8 £5 *Harold Holt Ltd*
Sat 17 March 8.00pm	**TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING** London Concert Orch. Fraser Goulding cond Malcolm Binns piano Band of the Welsh Guards Marche Slave, Swan Lake Suite Piano Concerto No 1, The Nutcracker Suite, 1812 Overture with cannon and mortar effects £15.50 £13.50 £11.50 £9.50 £7.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*
Sun 18 March 4.00pm	**IGOR OISTRAKH AND NATALIA ZERTSALOVA** Barbican Celebrity Recitals Series, J.S. Bach: Sonata for Violin and Piano No 1 Beethoven: Sonata No 9, Kreutzer Hindemith: Sonata in E Tchaikovsky: Serenade mélancolique Saint-Saëns arr Ysaye Caprice en forme de valse £10 £7.50 £5 *Barbican Centre*
Sun 18 March 7.30pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Nicholas Cleobury cond Philip Fowke piano Rossini: Ov. The Barber of Seville Handel: Music for the Royal Fireworks Grieg: Piano Concerto Beethoven: Symphony No 5 £16.50 £14.50 £12.50 £10 £7.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*
Wed 21 March 7.45pm	**ROYAL LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** 150th Anniversary Gala Libor Pešek cond. Joan Rodgers sop., Alfreda Hodgson contr, Laurence Dale tenor Peter Mikuláš bass. Liverpool Philharmonic Choir. Elgar: Fanfare and God Save the King Dvorák: Te Deum Beethoven: Symphony No 9 Choral £20 £15 £12.50 £10 £7.50 *SPONSORED BY UNILEVER PLC AND THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BOOM (BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ON MERSEYSIDE)*
Thurs 22 March 7.45pm	**HELSINKI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Vernon Handley cond Joseph Swensen violin Elgar: Introduction and Allegro for Strings Sibelius: Violin Concerto Dvořák: Symphony No 7 £14.50 £13 £11.50 £10 £6.50 £5 *Van Walsum Management*
Fri 23 March 7.15pm	**HAYDN THE CREATION** City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Simon Rattle cond Arleen Auger sop Philip Langridge tenor David Thomas bass CBSO Chorus £19.50 £16 ONLY *SPONSORED BY APRICOT* *LSO Ltd*

BARBICAN CELEBRITY RECITAL
SUNDAY 18 MARCH 4.00PM

IGOR OISTRAKH

violin

NATALIA ZERTSALOVA

piano

J. S. BACH Violin Sonata No 1 in B minor
BEETHOVEN Sonata No 9 in A major, Op.47 "Kreutzer"
HINDEMITH Sonata in E (1935)
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SAINT-SAËNS Caprice en forme de valse (arr Ysaye)

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Richard Hickox conductor

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5.30-6.30PM PRE-CONCERT EVENT ON ELGAR with Natalie Wheen and Michael Kennedy

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FELIX SCHMIDT

Paganini
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MATEJA MARINKOVIC

Tchaikovsky
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Royal Festival Hall

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ELGAR	Cello Concerto
ELGAR	Symphony No. 1

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Royal Festival Hall Friday 16 March at 7.30

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HUGH WOOD	Scenes from Comus
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RPO

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director Vladimir Ashkenazy

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

TUESDAY 20 MARCH 7.30 pm

Verdi	Overture, La Forza del Destino
Mozart	Clarinet Concerto in A, K622
Dvorak	Symphony No. 9 (New World)

Conductor **Heiichiro Ohyama**
Soloist **Emma Johnson**

Sponsored by Woolwich Building Society

THURSDAY 22 MARCH 7.30 pm

Grieg	Peer Gynt Suite
Rachmaninov	Piano Concerto No. 2
Beethoven	Symphony No. 5

Conductor **John Mauceri**
Soloist **Alekzei Sultanov**
(Winner of the Van Cliburn Competition)

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RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
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SATURDAY 17 MARCH at 8 p.m.

TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING

Marche Slave Swan Lake Suite
Piano Concerto No.1 The Nutcracker Suite
"1812" Overture with Cannon & Mortar Effects
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
FRASER GOULDING Cond. MALCOLM BINNS Piano
BAND OF THE WELSH GUARDS
£7.50, £9.50, £11.50, £13.50, £15.50

SUNDAY 18 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.

Rossini	Overture, The Barber of Seville
Handel	Music for the Royal Fireworks
Grieg	Piano Concerto in A minor
Beethoven	Symphony No.5 in C minor

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
NICHOLAS CLEOBURY conductor PHILIP FOWKE piano
£7.50, £10, £12.50, £14.50, £16.50

SATURDAY 14 APRIL at 8 p.m.

OPERA GALA NIGHT

Bizet: Flower Song, Entrance of the Toreador from Carmen; Duet from The Pearl Fishers; Verdi: Aida Grand March; Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Nabucco; Ah Fors e Lui from La Traviata; Anvil Chorus, Miserere from Il Trovatore Leoncavallo: Prologue from Pagliacci; Mascagni: Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana; Puccini: La Bohème Duet, Vissi d'arte from Tosca; Nessun Dorma from Turandot, Love Duet from Madam Butterfly Gounod: Jewel Song, Soldier's Chorus & Trio from Faust.
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
PAUL WYNNE GRIFFITHS conductor
CHRISTINE TEARE soprano
KENNETH WOOLLAM tenor
NEIL HOWLETT baritone
London Chorale
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NEIL RICHARDSON SINGERS
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SATURDAY 17 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.

VIENNESE EVENING

The songs, marches and waltzes of old Vienna with music by the Strauss family, Lehar and Suppé including the Blue Danube Waltz, Tritsch-Tratsch Polka, Emperor Waltz, Beautiful Galatea Overture, Radetzky March, Gold and Silver Waltz, Anvil Polka, Champagne Polka, Roses from the South Waltz, songs from The Merry Widow, Die Fledermaus, Gradeita and many more
JOHANN STRAUSS ORCHESTRA
JOHN BRADBURY director HELEN WALKER soprano
£6.50, £8.50, £11, £12.50, £14, £15.50

SUNDAY 15 APRIL at 7.30 p.m.

MOZART - HANDEL - VIVALDI

Handel	The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
Mozart	Eine kleine Nachtmusik
Mozart	Piano Concerto in C
Vivaldi	The Four Seasons

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
IAN WATSON director/piano
JOSE LUIS GARCIA violin
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BARBICAN HALL MONDAY 12 MARCH at 7.45 pm

RUGGERO RAIMONDI

with the

Moscow Conservatoire Orchestra
conductor LEONID NIKOLAIEV

An evening of Russian & Italian operatic Arias

See Barbican panel for details

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BARBICAN HALL

VAN WALSUM MANAGEMENT presents

VERNON HANDLEY JOSEPH SWENSEN

HELSINKI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Thursday 22 March 7.45 pm

ELGAR	Introduction & Allegro for Strings
SIBELIUS	Violin Concerto
DVORAK	Symphony No. 7

£14.50, £13, £11.50, £10, £6.50, £5 Box Office/CC 01-638 8891

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3 Concerts celebrating the music of Maxwell Davies as part of a series presented by the South Bank Centre

TUESDAY 27 MARCH 7.30 pm

Soloist Yo Yo Ma
Conductor Paul Daniel

Sibelius	Tapiola
Tchaikovsky	Rococo Variations
Maxwell Davies	Symphony No. 1

MONDAY 2 APRIL 7.30 pm

Soloist **Florence Quivar**
Conductor **Jan Latham-Koenig**

Mendelssohn	Overture, Hebrides
Mahler	Kindertotenlieder
Maxwell Davies	Symphony No. 2

TUESDAY 10 APRIL 7.30 pm

Soloist **Janina Fialkowska**
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Continued on page 61

● SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED FROM YESTERDAY'S LATER EDITIONS

THE ARTS

Cinema's high noon

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

Alan Lewens, for *Arena* on BBC 2, scored a notable hit last night with, amazingly, the first-ever detailed television profile of Fred Zinnemann. The director of *High Noon, A Man for All Seasons, Day of the Jackal* and half a dozen other classics is now in his early 80s and seldom talks to anyone about his work.

Zinnemann's career spans half a century; a middle-European, California immigrant, he began as an extra in *All Quiet on the Western Front* and by the mid-1930s was working with Robert Flaherty, who gave him the documentary training that has always been at the heart of his best pictures.

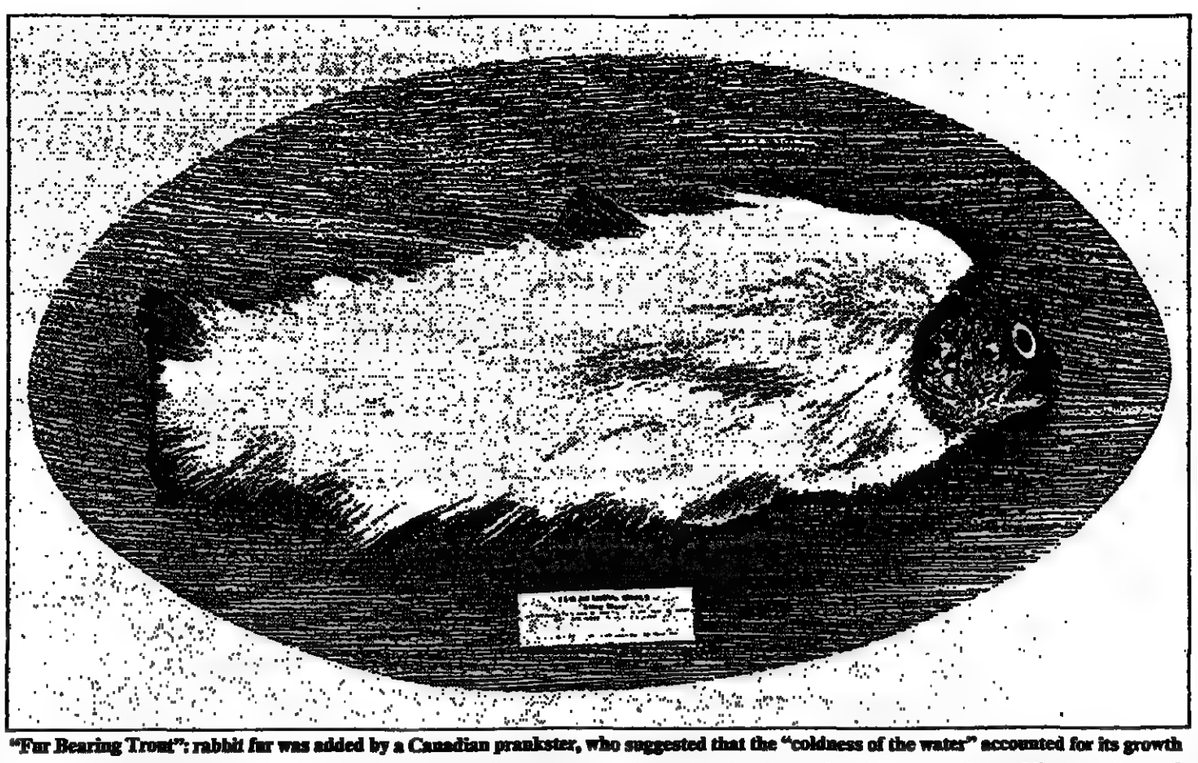
Zinnemann started the film careers of Marlon Brando, Montgomery Clift, Grace Kelly and Edward Fox. If his films have a common theme it is that of grace under pressure. All his major screen figures, from Kelly in *High Noon* to Paul Scofield in *Man for All Seasons* and Vanessa Redgrave in *Julia*, have been people for whom spiritual conflict is the key to their destiny.

Buried in a long, gentle interview with Zinnemann were one or two bombshells which will necessitate the re-writing of Hollywood history. *High Noon* was never intended to be an anti-McCarthy parable, and Sinatra did not get *From Here to Eternity* by Mafia pressure, merely the unavailability of Eli Wallach.

Lewens tactfully avoided any mention of the 1982 *Five Days One Summer*, which sadly ended Zinnemann's career, but his film was excellent on the earlier years and got a couple of wry grins out of the director recalling his producer, Harry Cohn, who reckoned that a documentary was a movie with no broads, and that a semi-documentary meant having only one broad on camera. It might have been good to hear some of his actors discussing his techniques but, beyond that, this was vintage movie history.

Something fishy going on

At the British Museum, Joseph Connolly sees the latest Shakespeare play, garden fairies, and a mer-man



"Fur Bearing Trout": rabbit fur was added by a Canadian prankster, who suggested that the "coldness of the water" accounted for its growth

What is a fake? The longer one spends at the British Museum's compelling new exhibition, *Fake? The Art of Deception*, the more insistently the question asserts itself. Even the exhibition's title takes the form of an interrogative. For although the word "fake" is usually spoken in contempt, implying something that is despicable and worthless, it soon becomes apparent that the majority of exhibits here are beautiful, having been the subject of much lavish skill and high artistry. In short, many possess real value.

In its attempt to define a fake, the exhibition brings together the most varied and fascinating array of materialized deception imaginable. Many comparisons elucidate the criteria by which fakes might be adjudged, while the enigmas seem deliberately and impishly placed simply in order to bamboozle. Take, for instance, the case of the rock-crystal skull, for many years assumed to date from pre-Hispanic Mexico; now, its origins are anyone's guess.

An *intention* to deceive seems to be the key. During this opening fortnight of the exhibition a talented artist called Susie Ray will be painting a Gauguin in full view of school-children who in time, one feels sure, will make her wish she had plumped for a Pollock. The fact that she is not creating this canvas in secret, with intent to pass it off as a *real* Gauguin, demonstrates her innocence: what we have is a *copy*, a truth exemplified by the artist's company: "Susie Ray Originals".

As the exhibition makes clear, financial gain is far from being the sole motivation for fakery. Sometimes fakers will tell you that they do it all for a joke (particularly when they are caught). That was half-true of folk-hero Tom Keating, who admitted that he enjoyed cocking a snook at the art establishment, while not actually turning down the loot. We all rather like the "experts" to look like fools; today, a Keating "Samuel Palmer" would not quite fetch as much at auction as a genuine Palmer, but it is arguable as to which artist is the better known.

Sometimes propaganda is the spur, as in the case of the Nazi forgery of a war-time *Evening Standard* announcing the annihilation of the RAF. And of course, it can be literally a matter of life and death, as with the brilliantly counterfeited visas executed by Colditz inmates, complete with Gestapo stamps, painstakingly carved from lmoleum.

But on the evidence of this exhibition, vicarious glory and reflected esteem seem to emerge as the prime objectives: faked history and ancestry abound. Possibly inspired by Shakespeare's famous dedicatory preface to the Sonnets, a Mr W H Ireland contracted a habit of unearthing letters and documents, all hand-written by the Bard. Eventually, in 1796, he overstepped the mark by "coming across" an complete Shakespeare text entitled "A Hystorycaille Playe Off Kynge Henrye The Secownde".

Among the hundreds of exhibits, ranging from the Far East to the West Coast of America and from ancient Babylon to the present day, are some so ludicrous that it is difficult to believe that anyone could have been *bothered* to fake them. Even more incredible is the fact that quite sane people were fooled. In this category come the "Cottingley Fairy Photographs" (cut-outs attached to trees by means of hat-pins, photographed, and subsequently hailed as genuine by Arthur Conan Doyle) and the diminutive remains of "Mer-men", cobbled up from remains of fish and monkeys.

But top prize must go to that remarkable species, "Fur Bearing Trout (Very Rare)", a hoax twice over, since public demand to see it was so great that the Royal Scottish Museum had to recreate it, having once discarded it as a fake. From the *caveat emptor* department we learn that fake Vuitton luggage, Rolex watches and Lacoste shirts are quite as nasty as the originals, and that we should avoid buying Gords Gin, Johnnie Hawker Scotch and Yardley Talc "by appointment to HM The Queen and the Queen Daughter".

Exhibitions quite regularly fail to live up to the promise of their catch-all titles and to the breadth of their aspirations. Have no fear: in *Fake?* we have the real McCoy.

● Fake? The Art of Deception *is at the British Museum until September 2.*

Sisterly feelings

RADIO
Martin Cropper

The last of the current *Soundtrack* documentaries (Radio 4) began arrestingly with a rubber-duck female voice announcing: "My name is Katie. That is not my real name and this is not my real voice." So how much of her was left, exactly? Her personality? But that was the problem. Unlike most Americans, who are simultaneously all the same person and no one in particular, "Katie" was burdened with a surfeit of personalities. Now back with just the one, she felt obliged – in telling her remarkable story while still hiding her identity – to stash her real self behind a fictional one.

"Katie" consisted of the following: three girls aged two, four and eight; a spunky teenage boy; two child-molesters; two sexually active adults and a latently homicidal woman. "Then there's me – I am a male even though I'm anatomically a female." This was not so much like *The Three Faces of Eve* as like census day on Mount Olympus. There were practical problems. Seated behind the wheel of her parked car and finding herself temporarily juvenile, she would have to wait for one of the adult "persons" to emerge before she could drive off.

Born into a wealthy family, she had as a child suffered physical torture from her alcoholic mother and prolonged sexual abuse from her charming father. Her affective circuits being shot, she retreated into a psychic repertory company, from which she was eventually rescued by a persistent mouse of an English therapist.

A cynic might conclude that a multiple-personality case, comprising as it does both sexes and several age-groups, would be the perfect target for advertisers; they, after all, know as much about regressive infantilism as psychiatrists. It was interesting to hear from the psychiatrists how far the pursuit of happiness has been upstaged by the hunt for "good feelings".

First harvest on new stage

THEATRE
Benedict Nightingale

Wild Oats
West Yorkshire Playhouse

"Watch out, chaps," called an anxious ASM as we reviewers were taken on a pre-performance tour of the stage. "If you stand in the wrong place, it could open, and you'd fall through." The disappearance of half the nation's theatre critics through a trap door into some subterranean abyss might have made a more sensational opening for the West Yorkshire Playhouse than what actually happened: the cutting of a bright purple ribbon by Diana Rigg, a totally inaudible speech by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, and rockets exploding in the sky to organ music from the car park.

However, we survived to take our places in the semi-circle of seats rising steeply above a stage that had, as it turned out, better things to do than ingest writers. Indeed, one good reason for launching the theatre with *Wild Oats* was that its action shifts from road to mansion, from pub to wood, allowing the machinery to demonstrate its sophistication. Pillars and signposts swept down from the flies, gates and shrubs and tables popped up through the floor, and bits of house came gliding in from the wings.

The correct term for the theatre's overall architecture is, it seems, "romantic pragmatism". That is to say, its girders, pillars and brickwork variously evoke Victorian warehouses, Japanese pagodas, children's build-it-yourself villages and the cottage-like eateries you sometimes find cutely nestling in modern shopping centres or beside super-highways. But no one can criticize the main auditorium, with its deep, broad acting space and its excellent *sightlines* and *acoustics*. The Quarry Theatre, as it is called, might be a smaller, more serviceable Olivier; and before long it will be joined by the Courtyard, a flexible, Cottesloe-like box.

But back to John O'Keeffe's late 18th-century comedy. An even better reason for doing it is that, at a time when theatre people were still regarded as riff-raff, it defiantly defended the actor's vocation and proclaimed the dignity of the drama itself. True, much of it is conventional if lively stuff, an appealing young orphan, rapturously in love with a rich maiden, ends magically provided with father, mother, titled background, and, of course, wife.

What is unusual, though, is the egalitarianism of the heroine, Lady Amaranth, and the calling of the hero. Rover is a wandering player, given to greeting strangers with bewildering speeches from *Hamlet* or *Lear*. He is also honest and brave. Despite the hostility of puritanism as represented by an English Tartuffe, he convinces the closeted Amaranth that "to hear a good play is taking the wholesome draught of precept from a golden cup embossed with gems".

One must applaud the new theatre for carrying that message to the good people of Yorkshire in so celebratory a way. Perhaps Jude Kelly's production is a bit broad at times. One actor titters too often, another mugs too much, a third cannot enter except at the run and comically holding up her apron. Over-acting is a temptation when unsmiling dignitaries are present in numbers, as they were on opening night; but it especially needs resisting when the main character is an actor whose genial histrionics are supposed to distinguish him from everyone else.

Yet with Reece Dinsdale performing that task with charm and wit, Geraldine Fitzgerald providing plenty of warmth as Amaranth, and decent support from Robert Austin, Murray Melvin and others, it still adds up to a bullish start for the Playhouse. Leeds, long missing from the nation's theatrical map, is on it at last.

TRISTRAM KENTON

Sowing their wild oats: Robert Austin (Thunder), Sam Kelly (Dory)

DANCE
John Percival

Edge
The Place

Sue MacLennan calls her latest work a science fantasy. It starts with one of the dancers, Catharine Tucker, giving herself a warning against the dangers of having ideas, and ends 60 minutes later with MacLennan in similar terms indicating that the time to look out is when you hear yourself making a noise like cat's dream.

In between, it could be a trip to the moon which Tucker and two other dancers undertake, or it could simply be that they are all loonies. Somewhere along the way they meet MacLennan, whose long solo looked to me like the incantation of a cat goddess.

The three younger dancers (Andrea Buckley, Catharine Tucker and Andrew Hammerson) have a lot of a very busy movement; MacLennan herself concentrates more on tiny but perfect detail, such as passing from tiptoe to walking on her heels in the course of three or four steps. For all of them there are enigmatic hand movements; MacLennan's own gestures seem much influenced by Eastern and Indian styles.

She says that a starting point for *Edge* was growing interest in scientific thought, although a comic novel by Carol Hill, *Amanda and the 11 Million High Dancer*, was also influential.

Better perhaps, rather than worrying about this, to concentrate on the curious energy of the piece, which the dancing shares with Lindsay Cooper's insidiously jazzy score. Magdalen Rubaicava's costumes are kinky and colourful, and MacLennan is one of the most enterprising and imaginative of our independent choreographers, which is perhaps why the Arts Council has just cut her off without a shilling.

MARILYN KINGWILL

Sue MacLennan: solo in *Edge*

Survival of the slickest

ROCK
Jasper Rees

UB40
Brixton Academy

A good song can pick up new resonances without losing the old ones. A decade ago UB40's "1 in 10" polemicized unemployment, but now that the group has been holding down one job for 10 years, the title has acquired an alternative meaning.

If the edge has gone out of their politics, musically UB40 are sharper than ever. Sole survivors of the early 1980s ska boom, of which they were a lone reggae offshoot, they now have a touch of cabaret in their utterly professional stage show.

What exempts them from a comparison of which they would not approve is the band's united, democratic front. UB40 specialize in shuffling the pack so that no one upstages anyone else for long. A bass player taking a turn on lead vocals, a bongoist on trombone and a trumpeter on bass, give a glimpse of the array of performance permutations available to them. Yet however impressively versatile it looks to field a quintet of horns in "If It Happens Again" and then shed all five for "Don't Break My Heart", I suspect that such an extent of vocal and instrumental options is strictly for show. Ali Campbell's rhythmic riffs on guitar, for example, seem no more than duplicates of his brother Robin's; but who's complaining when the show is as energetic as this?

Importing reggae from Birmingham down to this quarter of the capital smacks of coals to Newcastle, but they were keen to play up a sense of kinship: Robin Campbell gave genuine greetings to Brixton, not empty ones to London in general.

After opening with two of the best covers from their second reggae reinterpretation album *Labour of Love II* – "Here I Am (Come and Take Me)" and "The Way You Do the Things You Do" – they followed up with a rich diet of lesser known reggae raps and the standard hits "Red Red Wine", "Cherry Oh Baby", "Rat in Mi Kitchen" – and signed off with a tenth anniversary rendition of their début single "Food for Thought". If they keep it up, they will never have to sign on again.

Fit for Tuscan frolics

OPERA
Hilary Finch

Don Pasquale
Swan, Stratford

The latest way of maintaining stamina in an opera company during a long tour seems to be by building aerobics into the act. I had never imagined the overture to *Don Pasquale* as music for a fitness routine; but here the routines work marvels for Peter Knapp's Travelling Opera, on the road with a show only the most pursed-lipped Donizetti purist would find anything but invigorating.

Their Don is a fitness freak, living in modern-day Tuscany surrounded by a team of cat-suited young things. He just happens to be English as well, which helps when the company, on principle, never sing in any other language. But wait: they do. Peter Knapp, directing, knows that there are musical gains to be made in Italian, and comic capital to be invested in sprinting between the two languages.

So, Dr Malatesta (Alan Oke) is allowed his first aria in Italian, because Norina is "far too beautiful to be described in English". Likewise, "Povero Ernesto" (David Fieldsend) is given his head both here and in his garden serenade, while Norina (Elisabeth Clarke) revs up the final ensemble in the teasing tongue of Tuscany.

Peter Knapp's translation is felicitious, but the dialogue too often skids on the edge of soap, tugging embarrassingly against some skilful direction. But despite this and the exercise bicycles, this production is *musically* true. This matters all the more as Travelling Opera now fills some of the more opera-thirsty parts of the South East which Kent Opera has had to leave dry. Richard Balcombe conducts nine crack instrumental soloists in whatever space is available, and young, inexperienced voices, such as that of Elisabeth Clarke, can find their level without paining themselves or their audiences.

A mosaic of Scandinavian motifs

CONCERT
Paul Griffiths

Matrix/Ziegler
Broadcasting House

As part of the BBC's current Scandinavian spree, this concert brought us four works by four different composers from four different countries, although the selection was rather less bewildering because all pieces featured string orchestra, and the first three were all predominantly slow.

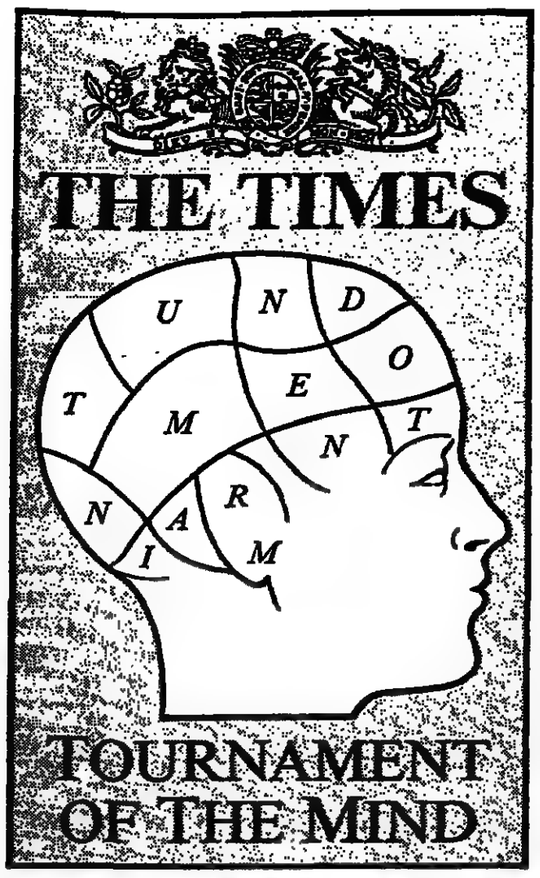
Written in 1965, *Adagio* by the Icelander Jón Nordál represents a common phenomenon of its time: a traditionally educated composer coming to terms with the new avant-garde – which here, as so often, essentially meant rejecting the avant-garde to go back to old ways. The piece, with the strings joined by flute, harp and piano, consists of broad successive planes founded on small patterns of notes, and proceeding with a Sibelian objectivity.

Daniel Börtz, from Sweden, offered a symmetrical expansion from, and contraction back to, quiet stillness in his *Night Clouds* for strings alone, moving through glistening sustained sounds and heftier nightmares. The Norwegian Cecilie Ore's *Strata*, also for strings alone, then introduced us to deep, and often deep-voiced, movements of tone, sculpted with an electronic feeling for sound mass.

Finally the Dane, Poul Ruders, the only one of these composers at all familiar here, was represented by his Concerto for violin, strings, harpsichord and harp, a mosaic of baroque and other motifs done to death as minimalist ostinatos, altogether conveying a curious impression of suave barbarism. Rebecca Hirsch, the soloist, gave a performance of bite and intensity, ably supported by the Matrix Ensemble under Robert Ziegler.

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

A battle of the best brains



● How have you managed so far? What is Ringo Starr's real name? Did you work out the riddle in Round One? Have the diagrams puzzled you to distraction?

● As *The Times* Tournament of the Mind 1990 ends its first week, thousands of readers eagerly await the next 15 rounds. Along with *Round Five published today (right)*, we have repeated Rounds One to Four, for those who may have missed them.

● At stake is £5,000 cash for the individual winner, and a Hewlett Packard computer for the winning school.

● Although the questions have been devised by Mensa, Mr Harold Gale, the society's executive director, says that those who have a logical mind and a good general knowledge should find the puzzles easy to solve.

● The top 100 finalists, or all who have scored the maximum possible 1,000 points, will go through to a final five rounds. But no one ends the competition empty-handed. All who enter will receive a special certificate, marking their effort.

● The *Collins English Dictionary* (second edition) and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (15th edition) are the only reference works to be used to gain the answers. No written correspondence will be entered into and no telephone queries will be accepted.

● A special timed play-off will be held to decide the individual winner from the top individual finalists.

ROUND FIVE

1 DIAGRAMS

In this diagram, the following rules apply. You must always start at the centre square, 1. You must move vertically and horizontally from square to touching square but never diagonally. You must move to only three other squares, adding the values of each. The sum of all four numbers must total 54. You then return to square 1. Follow the same rules and take a different route to 54. How many different permitted routes are there?

			17			
		10	17	17		
	17	10	26	26	17	
26	10	26	1	10	26	17
	10	10	26	26	17	
		17	26	10		
			17			

2 VERBAL

What is the three-letter English word which can be added to the end of each of the following words in order to create three other English words?

PASS HOST FLOOR

3 LOGIC

What is the next number in the following series of numbers?

6 7 9 8 6 8

4 MATHS

During a cricket match, Andrew scores 67 more runs than Brian. Brian, on the other hand, scores 52 fewer runs than Chris. Brian's score and Richard's score total 62 runs. Richard scores 17 more runs than David and Chris scores 34 more runs than Richard. What is the total number of runs scored by the five players?

MISCELLANY

1. What is the common name of Russia's Main Civil Air Fleet Administration?
2. What breed of dog differs from all others in having a blue-black tongue?
3. St Stephen's Crown is the greatly venerated crown of which country?
4. Which daily morning newspaper was founded in 1888 by Horatio Bottomly?
5. In which group of islands is the province of Antiqua?

THE RULES

● The competition is open to all readers, both in the UK and the rest of the world.
● Each entry must be made on the original answer coupons taken from *The Times*.
● No telephone queries will be accepted.
● The only reference works used are the *Collins English Dictionary* (second edition) and *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* (15th edition). Answers obtained from other sources will not be accepted.
● Only postal entries will be accepted.
● The competition is open to members of Mensa.
● Employees, and their families, of Mensa, News International and their agencies will not be permitted to enter the competition.
● No correspondence will be entered into and the Editor's decision is final.

SCHOOL TEAMS

● Schools can enter teams comprising up to 10 pupils.
● Where more than one team from a school is entered, photocopies of the answer coupons and address vouchers will be permitted.
● Each school entry must nominate a team leader whose name must be shown on the entry form.
● Schools must mark the envelopes containing their entries "Schools' Tournament".
● The winning school team will be decided from the final five rounds.

HOW TO ENTER

● The maximum possible total from the first 20 rounds is 1,000 points.
● Entrants must answer the questions only on the published coupons, and must send their coupons only at the end of the 20 rounds.
● On the final day of the 20 rounds (Wednesday, March 28) an address coupon will be published. The completed answer coupons from the previous 20 rounds, together with the name and address of the entrant, should be sent to this address.
● Entries must be received by the last post on Tuesday, April 3.
● The full answers to the 20 rounds will be published in the week commencing Monday, April 9.
● Every entrant will receive a certificate from *The Times*.
● Those who score above a certain level of points will receive a personalized certificate in bronze, silver or gold.
● The names of the finalists from the first 20 rounds will be published in *The Times* on Friday April 20.
● The top 100 individual scorers and the top 10 schools from the 20 rounds, or all who have scored the maximum 1,000 points, will enter the final five rounds, published in *The Times* from Tuesday April 24.
● The final date for receiving entries for the final five rounds is the last post on Friday, May 4.
● The top 10 individual scorers from the final five rounds, or all who achieve the maximum 250 points, will be invited to take part in a timed final in London on May 14.
● The individual final will be played under exam conditions, using only the *Collins English Dictionary* (second edition) and four-function calculators. No other reference works will be permitted.
● The winner will receive a trophy and £5,000. The remaining finalists will receive £250 each. The winning school will receive a Hewlett Packard computer, a plaque and a certificate.

ROUND 5 — ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

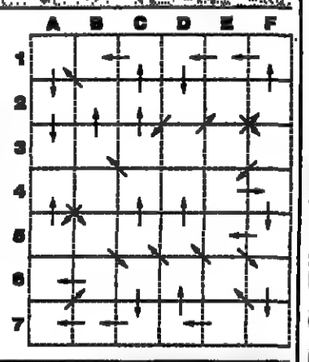
PUZZLES
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 ..... Answer 4 .....
MISCELLANY
Answer 1 .....
Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 .....
Answer 4 .....
Answer 5 .....
NAME: .....

Here are those first steps on the way to £5,000

ROUND ONE

1 DIAGRAMS

In the diagram, there are several strings of arrows of differing length. The arrows represent the direction you should move along each string. The longest string passes through the most squares. Which square contains the start of the first arrow in the longest string?



2 VERBAL

Can you solve this riddle?

My first is in ACHE but not in PAIN,
My second is in ROAD but not in LANE,
My third is in PEN and also in NIB,
My fourth is in BONE but never in RIB,
My fifth is in DAY and also in YEAR,
My whole can be a fool or even a fur
What am I?

3 LOGIC

Replace the question marks with three mathematical symbols so that the calculation is correctly completed

(117 ? 9) ? 4 ? 4 = 56

4 MATHS

A standard bath has two taps and a plug hole. One of the taps completely fills the bath in 15 minutes if the plug is in the hole, while the other takes 20 minutes to perform the same function. With a filled bath and the taps off, it takes 30 minutes to drain the bath.
Assuming you have left both taps on and the plug out, how long will it take for the bath to be filled?

MISCELLANY

1. Which Egyptian king built the two temples of Abu Simbel?
2. What is Ringo Starr's real name?
3. What capital city's name means "Muddy Confluence"?
4. Which club, whose members included Sir Walter Raleigh, met at the Mermaid Tavern in London?
5. In what country would you find a desert death adder?

ROUND 1 — ANSWERS

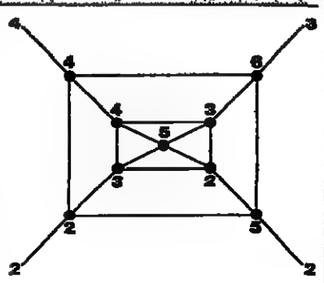
Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

PUZZLES
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 ..... Answer 4 .....
MISCELLANY
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 .....
Answer 4 ..... Answer 5 .....
NAME: .....

ROUND TWO

1 DIAGRAMS

In this diagram you must start on any of the four outside corners, make a note of its value and work along the lines, linking four other dots. Stop en route and add the value of each dot to your running total. However, you may use only one outside corner in any route and you may not retrace your steps. How many distinct ways are there of scoring 19 by following these instructions?



2 MATHEMATICS

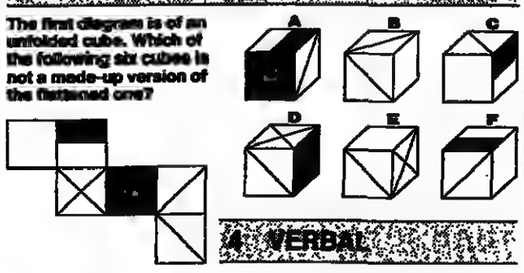
In a 200 metre race Fred beats Bill by 10 metres. They decide to run the race again. Bill starts on the 200 metre start-line but Fred starts exactly 15 metres behind it. They both run the race at exactly the same speed as before. Who won the second race?

MISCELLANY

1. The Colossus of Rhodes represented which god?
2. In baseball, who was known as the "Yankee Clipper"?
3. What lake in the United States was known to the Indians as "Andlatarocte"?
4. Who published his first novel, *The White Peacock*, in 1911?
5. Where can you find what is believed to be the only examples of Classical Greek wall painting?

3 LOGIC

The first diagram is of an unfolded cube. Which of the following six cubes is not a made-up version of the flattened one?



4 VERBAL

Here is a famous quotation with the vowels missed out. What is the quotation?

V R Y M N V R F R T Y S S C N D R L

ROUND 2 — ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

PUZZLES
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 ..... Answer 4 .....
MISCELLANY
Answer 1 .....
Answer 2 ..... Answer 3 .....
Answer 4 ..... Answer 5 .....
NAME: .....

ROUND THREE

1 DIAGRAMS

Obey the following rules to solve this puzzle. Start at the bottom left-hand corner and work your way up to finish in the top right-hand corner. You can move vertically and horizontally from square to touching square but never diagonally. You must add the value of each square to your total as you go, but you cannot collect more than nine numbers on any attempt. What is the lowest total you can get?

5	3	8	6	9
6	8	6	7	5
7	9	9	3	6
5	2	4	4	7
4	1	5	8	2

2 VERBAL

Four longer words, which are all the names of birds, can be formed by adding the small words together. You must use all the small words only once. The four long words comprise one 10-letter word, two seven-letter words and one 11-letter word. What are the four longer words?

WALL THROAT TAIL GALE IN NIGHT GAD PIN BLUE

3 LOGIC

In this puzzle you have to find the way to reach F, in the top left-hand corner. The letters and numbers in each square are highly significant to permitted movement. Start on the bottom line, on any of the six squares, but only one square logically reaches F. If you land on the base of an arrow you must follow it to its point. On which square must you start?

F	1D	5D	3R	2L	5L
4D	2R	2R			5L
5R	3D	2R	2U	2D	4L
3U	3U	1U	2R	4L	2U
		1R	3L	1R	4L
3U	3R	4U	3U	5U	1U
2U	6U	2U	3U	4U	1U

4 MATHS

At a highly exclusive night club the entrance fee is in full pounds only. The nightly takings were £7,777. More than 12 and less than 100 people attended. How many customers were there and what was the entrance fee?

MISCELLANY

1. Which English city was chosen by the Romans as headquarters of the 20th legion?
2. What is the largest living mammal?
3. Which religious movement was founded in Persia in the third century A.D. by Mani?
4. Which Japanese emperor was the 124th direct descendent of Jimmu?
5. Which English landscape painter, who died in San Remo, Italy, gave a series of drawing lessons to Queen Victoria in 1846?

ROUND 3 — ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

PUZZLES
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 ..... Answer 4 .....
MISCELLANY
Answer 1 .....
Answer 2 ..... Answer 3 .....
Answer 4 ..... Answer 5 .....
NAME: .....

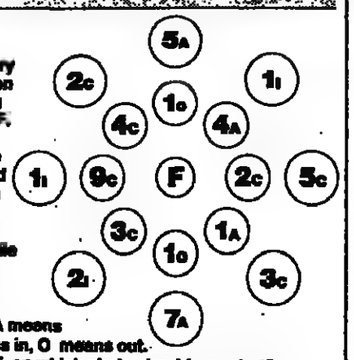
ROUND FOUR

1 LOGIC

You are looking at a 10-seater double-decker bus. It has five seats upstairs and five seats downstairs. Jane is seated directly below Richard and in front of eight people, including Nick. Pat sits in the seat directly behind Nick and directly below John. Kate sits at the very back, directly above Tony. Graham is seated directly in front of Sara and directly above Bob. Who sits directly in front of Tony?

2 DIAGRAMS

The following rules apply to this puzzle: You must land on every circle, but only once on each, before finishing on the circle marked F. Your method of movement from circle to circle is determined by the symbols within each circle — the number denotes number of moves, while the corresponding letter denotes the direction.
C means clockwise, A means anticlockwise, I means in, O means out.
So that you finish on F, on which circle should you start?



3 VERBAL

Which word of four letters may be placed between these two words so that when it is added to the end of the first word it creates another word and when it is added to the front of the second word it creates another word?

EYE (. . . .) PARK

4 MATHS

You have a car with a leaking petrol tank. It began to leak the moment you set out on your journey and, at that time, you had 15 gallons of petrol in the tank. Three gallons of petrol have been leaking out per hour. You have been travelling at 45 miles per hour. Your car's usual petrol consumption is 30 miles per gallon.
How many miles will you cover on your journey before the tank is dry?

MISCELLANY

1. The first use of the term, the "iron Curtain", is accredited to whom?
2. When did the Children's Crusade begin?
3. What is the main colour of a Venetian gondola?
4. What is the capital city of Alabama, US?
5. In which year did Rodin create "The Kiss"?

ROUND 4 — ANSWERS

Cut out this coupon and keep your answers until Round 20. Answers will be accepted only on coupons published in *The Times*

PUZZLES
Answer 1 ..... Answer 2 .....
Answer 3 ..... Answer 4 .....
MISCELLANY
Answer 1 .....
Answer 2 ..... Answer 3 .....
Answer 4 ..... Answer 5 .....
NAME: .....

CAMPUS COMPETITION

Enter young critics

Two women have won the top prizes in our competition for student writers. The winner is Sarah Eltis, whose review of the National Theatre production of Oscar Wilde's *Salome* combined a journalistic response to the event with a sense of the importance of the play. Sarah, more frequently known as Sos, is 23 and preparing for a doctorate at Christ Church College, Oxford. Her subject is Oscar Wilde as socialist and anarchist.

Sarah, an English graduate and MPhil, is currently undecided as to whether to pursue a career as a journalist or an academic.

The runner-up is Helena Aziz, aged 24, a philosophy graduate from Manchester University who is currently at the Emile Wolf College of Accountancy in London. Her entry, a review of the BBC2 *Bookmark* programme, was her first attempt at writing a review.

Third prize goes to Jonathan Brenton from Bushey, Hertfordshire, for his review of Kenneth Branagh's film, *Henry V*. Jonathan is an English graduate from Bristol University, currently on a year's post-graduate scholarship at the University of Boston.

The winners were chosen from an entry of hundreds of reviews of events broadcast or performed over the Christmas holiday period. In addition to the strong university entry, we received many reviews from sixth formers.

Sheridan Morley, television critic of *The Times* and an experienced theatre critic, was the chief judge for the competition. He writes: "It was an unnervingly strong entry, unnerving at least for professional critics looking over their shoulders to see how fast the next generation is approaching. What was encouraging was the even split across theatre, cinema and television.

"Just as the majority of my critical generation seemed to edge towards the theatre because of Kenneth Tynan, a decade or two later, because of Clive James, every young critic seemed to want to write about television. Now the pendulum seems to be swinging back, with a renewed interest in stage and wide screen, and alongside that comes a healthy cynicism. If student critics are learning any one discipline, it is how to be constructively rude about their elders, and only sometimes betters."

WINNER

First prize-winner: Sarah Eltis from Christ Church College, Oxford.

SARAH ELTIS

Salome
The National Theatre
December 16, 1989

The National Theatre's production of *Salome* is fated to be labelled "Berkoff's *Salome*" — not because of any distortion or revision of Oscar Wilde's play on Berkoff's part, but because the production carries the triumphal and brilliant stamp of its director. Just as Peter Brook reputedly transformed *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with his own touch of genius, so Berkoff has not commandeered Wilde's work for his own purposes, but used his own art to validate Wilde's.

Ornate, self-conscious and self-indulgent, *Salome* is both a criticism of *fin de siècle* corruption and a product of it. Wilde's plans for the play's staging were as florid as its language: under a violet sky, each character was to be dressed in shades of yellow, from palest lemon to richest orange, and braziers of perfume were to replace the orchestra, from which scented clouds would rise, partly veiling the stage — a different perfume for each emotion. The stage of the National, however, presented a rigid pattern of black and white — the staging, like the rest of the production, echoed the precise, evilly lurid illustrations of Aubrey Beardsley. Yet the production was as richly stylized as Wilde's extravagant directions suggest. In stark evening dress, their faces a mask of two-tone grey, the characters moved in a painful yet fluid slow motion, like mannequins in some bizarre and inexorable ballet, commanded by the syncopated rhythms of a huge grand piano. The play was set, for no apparent reason, in the 1920s rather than the 1890s, but the chorus seemed less a troupe of bright young things than a sinister hydra, writhing snake-like at its simulated banquet.

The recurring images, choruses and repetitions of Wilde's lines were delivered slowly, with perhaps more care than relish. As image piled upon image, the deliberate artificiality of the language was occasionally shattered by startling colloquialisms: "No; the moon is like the moon, that is all," scoffs Herodias, puncturing her husband's rhetoric.

Herod and Herodias snarled and bickered in the sinister, familiar power-struggle of husband and wife. Berkoff rendered Herod's echoing refrains now as the insistence of obsession, now as the desperate reiterated plea of a man slipping closer to the edge, his voice sliding from malicious insinuation to a high-pitched, impotent whine. Carmen du Santoy (Herodias) crushed him with flickers of cold contempt and black-stockinged thigh.

Katherine Schlesinger's Salome, sinuous and fragile, a knowing pawn in her mother's hands, performed the dance of the seven veils under a red brothel light, her hands running lithely and closely over her body in a mimed striptease, which left her naked before the audience and her lascivious step-father. Though in many ways an exercise in theatrical technique, the production never failed to carry the audience with it. The severed head of Jokanaan, an empty space between Salome's outstretched hands, visibly dripped blood.

To say that this is the production of a lifetime is hardly a compliment — *Salome* is unlikely to be produced again for several decades. It should, and will, be remembered. The production, like the play, was conceived with one eye cocked at posterity, but the result is not only impressive but entertaining. The ostentatious art of Wilde and Berkoff blend to form a spell-binding spectacle.

RUNNER-UP

HELENA AZIZ

Bookmark: Profile of Dame Iris Murdoch
BBC2
December 29, 1989

The sight of A. N. Wilson in bed with a typewriter was not a pleasant one. Neither, for that matter, was the rhythmic movement of his jaws as he attempted to extract inspiration from an unidentifiable substance. But although one may have shuddered at his imitation of the sleazier variety of private investigator, it was possible to feel some sympathy for this frustrated biographer.

There he was, a clever chap, asked by John Bailey to write a biography of Iris Murdoch, doing his very best in the way of *penetrating gazes and sharp* questioning; and what had he achieved? He had asked Iris Murdoch some perfectly straightforward questions and been treated to a feeble imitation of *Through the Looking Glass*.

"There's a lot of water in your books, Dame Iris," he murmured. "Can you explain this?"

"There's a lot of water in real life," replied the Red Queen.

Well, perhaps water was a sore subject. Gentlemanly Wilson did not pursue the issue.

"Why did you leave for Europe after the war? Had you experienced some kind of crisis?"

"England is part of Europe," came the cryptic reply.

Wilson found this a little difficult to swallow, and told viewers as much by repeating the question more times than was prudent.

Hope lives eternal, and Wilson was not, as yet, deterred. That part of Europe which is physically separated from England, is separated by water. Perhaps it was this connection which unnerved the once almost drowned Murdoch.

Second prize-winner: Helena Aziz, Emile Wolf College of Accountancy

Given the exhausting contrariness of his subject, Wilson's appearance in bed was forgivable. Less comprehensible was the intermittent use of a shot which depicted an underwater swimmer searching for something in a tangle of huge weeds. The scene certainly inspired confidence: it seemed to suggest that Wilson was on the brink of finding a treasure trove of facts. Unfortunately this confidence was repeatedly dashed by the subject and some of her supporters.

When asked how he saw Murdoch, a painter-friend confessed to having a vision of a light bulb. The photographer-friend was no more illuminating: she saw a face which was "perfect" with "everything as it should be". How everything should be was not the subject she seemed inclined to discuss.

Moving closer to Murdoch's own activity — writing — A. S. Byatt was heard confessing that she and Murdoch communicate with the "writer part" of their selves. This statement was not only odd, it was positively unfortunate. Just before it was made, there had been a shot of Murdoch giving Byatt a writerly peck on the cheek — which rather made all this business about airy intellectual communication seem a bit of a sham.

The cruellest blow of all, perhaps, came from Murdoch's philosopher chum. Speaking of Murdoch's moral perception and forthrightness, she recalled an event which occurred when they had been students.

They had had dinner with two dons and were on their way home when Murdoch stopped in her tracks and pronounced her verdict: one of the dons was a good man, the other was bad.

A. N. Wilson's reaction to this anecdote was not filmed. But given Murdoch's predilection for decisive moral judgement, it would hardly be surprising if a spasm of doubt had racked Wilson's spare frame.

Judging from the lack of cordiality between subject and biographer, it would appear that A. N. Wilson has been weighed, and found wanting.

RESULTS

First prize: Zenith Data Systems SuperSPORT 286 computer and Epson LQ400 printer, plus five CD records from the Collins Classics range. Winner: Sarah Eltis, Christ Church College, Oxford.
Second prize: Zenith Data Systems Z-159 Desktop computer and Epson printer, plus five CD records. Winner: Helena Aziz, Emile Wolf College of Accountancy, London.
Third prize: Pilot FJ1000 fountain pen, plus five CD records. Winner: Jonathan Brenton, University of Boston, US.
Runners-up prizes: Three CD records, plus Pilot pen set. Winners: Melissa Bateson, New College, Oxford, review subject King's College Cambridge carol service; Tessa Boase, Lincoln College, Oxford, *The Good Person of Sichuan*.

Third prize: Jonathan Brenton

National Theatre: Daniel Litvin, Merton College, Oxford, *Blind Date* (ITV); Gordon Lyon, Trinity College, Cambridge, *Lawrence of Arabia*; Linton Chiswick, St Hugh's College, Oxford, *Dizzy Gillespie at the RFH* (BBC); Sophie Goldsworthy, Mansfield College, Oxford, *Relatively Speaking* (BBC); Helen Wallace, London College of Printing, *Cats*, New London Theatre; Stuart Peel, Wolverhampton Polytechnic, *Robin Williams, An Evening at the Met* (C4)/*Mr Bean* (ITV); Matthew Edwards, Repton School, *Grange Hill* (BBC); Clare Haines, University of Warwick, *South Bank Show* (ITV).

OUTINGS

THIS WEEKEND

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH BRITISH WATERWAYS: A flotilla of boats in Chester for the weekend — a crane boat, floating dredger, tug and a luxury holiday hire boat. Demonstrations of traditional and modern working and maintenance techniques and an opportunity to walk down into the drained chambers of the local staircase locks. Free trips on a horse-drawn boat.
Power Wharf, Shropshire Union Canal, Chester. Today, tomorrow 10am-4pm. Free. Refreshments throughout.

BRITISH FEDERATION OF YOUNG CHOIRS — WEMBLEY SINGING DAY: A chorus of 600 young people representing 19 choirs from all over the British Isles in a concert — the result of a one-day communal workshop directed by Brian Kay. The programme comprises Mozart's *Requiem* and the *Exultate Jubilate* and the world premiere of Christopher Brown's *The Circling Year*.
The Grand Hall, Wembley Conference Centre, Wembley, Middlesex. Tomorrow 5pm. Box-office (01-900 1234). Adult £2, child £1.

BAFTA CRAFT AWARDS PREVIEW: An opportunity to meet some of the film-makers, designers, craftspeople and personalities whose work has been nominated for the awards ceremony to be held tomorrow.
Glasgow Film Theatre, Glasgow. Tonight 7.30pm. Tickets, must be booked, £2.90. Box-office (041 332 6535).

SERENDIPITY: Opening day of an exhibition of work by Snowdon, subtitled "A light-hearted look at people, places and things". The exhibits include portraits of the famous and the unknown, stage and fashion designs — all set among a number of unusual objects.
The Royal Photographic Society, Milsom Street, Bath (0225 462841). Until May 8, daily 9.30am-5.30pm. Adult £2, child £1. Family ticket — two adults plus two children — £4.50.

COMPASS DAY: For ramblers, hikers or would-be orienteers, a workshop in which to learn how to use a Silva compass, followed by an opportunity to put theory into practice. Basic map-reading knowledge required. Take packed lunch.
Tunnel End Canal and Countryside Centre, Waters Road, Marsden near Huddersfield. Tomorrow from 10am. Booking essential. Further information (0484 846062).

APOLLO II: The last week in which to see the exhibition which marked the twentieth anniversary of man's first landing on the moon. Among the displays: a Saturn V scale model of the launch vehicle, moon rock from NASA, inflight clothing and Apollo spacesuit replica.
The Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (01-938 8000). Until March 18. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm. Adult £2, child £1. Free admission 4.30-6pm.

VICTORIAN MILITARY FAIR: For all model-makers, stalls specializing in militaria, prints, books, medals, modelling techniques and equipment. This year's special display centres on 19th-century forts and fortifications.
Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2. Today 10.30am-4.30pm. Adult £1.50, child 50p.

DAILY MAIL IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION: Annual showcase for everything related to the home — from fully equipped houses to the latest in household gadgetry. Of particular interest to would-be entrepreneurs is the Prince's Youth Business Trust stand, with 49 successful businesses set up by young people who were aided by the PYBT.
Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5. Today until April 1. Daily 10am-8pm. Adult £4.50, child over five and senior citizen £2.80. Under-fives free.

MONDAY

COMMONWEALTH DAY: Colourful festival designed for children aged from seven to 11. Nationals from Commonwealth countries will be present to meet the children. The celebrations include music, dance and a finale of balloons released from the institute's lawns.
Commonwealth Institute, Main Galleries, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-603 4535). 10.30am-1.30pm. Admission 50p.

NATIONAL THEATRE PLATFORM EVENTS: To coincide with the publication of *Titmuss Regained*, the sequel to *Paradise Postponed*, John Mortimer talks about writing for theatre, television, films and novels. Book signing follows. Tonight, 6pm, the Cottesloe. On Wednesday, 6pm, in the Olivier, Deborah Warner — director of Brecht's *The Good Person of Sichuan* talks and answers questions about the production.
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1. Box-office (01-928 2252). Tickets £2.50.

ANTIQUE DISCOVERY DAY: Sotheby's experts value your antiques and accept items for auction.
Metropole Arts Centre, The Leas, Folkestone, Kent. 10.30am-3.30pm. In aid of the RNLI.

CHILDREN'S FASHION SHOW IN AID OF THE GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND: Presented by Vacani's School of Dancing, whose pupils have included a number of members of the Royal family. Children of various celebrities will be among those modelling the clothes.
Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, London W1. 4pm. Tickets £20. Arrive early to get a good seat.

IS THERE A FUTURE FOR A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE?: Pertinent question posed by Mr Trevor Clay, ex-general secretary, Royal College of Nursing.
Centre of Medical Law and Ethics, 3b 20 King's College, Strand, London WC2. 1.05pm-2.15pm. Admission free.

TUESDAY

EARLY SPRING FLOWER SHOW: Displays and competitions for early camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias and ornamental plants.
Royal Horticultural Society Halls, Greycoat Street, London SW1 (01-834 4333). Today 11am-7pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £1.50, accompanied child free.

CHELSEA ANTIQUES FAIR: 43 specialist dealers at this annual fair where datelines are pre-1830.
Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Road, London SW3. Until March 24. Charity preview today 11am-2pm. Admission £10. Thereafter Mon-Fri 11am-8pm, weekends 11am-6pm. Admission £5, includes catalogue.

WEDNESDAY

WOODEN TOYS 1919: First day of an exhibition organized by the museum in conjunction with John Gould, lecturer in play equipment design at the London College of Furniture. On display, a large collection of contemporary machine-made toys from Britain and Europe — many selected and acquired at this year's international toy fair in Nuremberg, the traditional home of the wooden toy-making industry.
Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 (01-981 1711). Until April 29. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30pm-6pm. Free.

LITERATURE ON THE SOUTH BANK: Shena Mackay, the Edinburgh-born writer, whose seventh novel, *Dunedin*, is published this month, reads some of her short stories.
The Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall, London SE1. 7.30pm. Adult £2.50, student £1.50. Box-office (01-928 8800).

LONDON BEER DRINKER FESTIVAL: Exhibition and tastings of traditionally brewed British beers, cider and perry. Brass, jazz and folk music in the evening.
Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London WC1. Today, tomorrow and Fri. Daytime 11.30am-3pm. Free. Evenings 5pm-10pm. Admission £1.

THURSDAY

SPRING CHICKEN: Opening day of an exhibition of toys, textiles, ceramics and prints — all based on hens.
Hitchcocks, 10 Chapel Row, Queen's Square, Bath. Until May 11 during normal shop opening hours.

FURNITURE LECTURE: Victor Chinnery, oak furniture consultant for Christie's, discusses furniture and decoration in Tudor and Stuart homes.
Oakwell Hall Barn, Oakwell Hall, Kirklees. Further information (0484 430808).

FRIDAY

THAMES BARRIER CLOSURE: An opportunity to watch tidal defences at work. Spectators welcome.
Thames Barrier Centre, Unity Way, London SE18. Further information (01-854 1373). 9.15am-11.45am.

ENDANGERED SPECIES WEEK: British Woodcarvers Association exhibition, with each carving representing a different example of a species under threat. Also a related information display, slide and video shows.
The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Mill Road, Arundel, West Sussex (0903 883355). Today until March 23. Daily 9.30am-5pm. Last entry 4pm. Adult £2.70, child £1.40.

Judy Froshaug

RECORDS

A royal duel for attention

OPERA

John Higgins

Donizetti: Maria Stuarda Gruberova/Baltsa/Araiza. Munich Radio Orch/Patané (Philips 426 233-2) (two compact discs)
Donizetti: Poliuto Ricciarelli/Carreras/Pons. Vienna Symphony Orch/Caetani (CBS M2K 44821) (two compact discs)
Donizetti: Poliuto Connell/Martinucci/Bruson. Rome Opera Orch/Latham Koenig (Nuova Era 6776/77) (two compact discs)

Mary, Queen of Scots, may have the title role in *Maria Stuarda*, arguably the most powerful of Donizetti's "Tudor" operas. And most of the weight of the final scene falls on the soprano as Mary, on her way to the scaffold, asks God not to be too hard on perfidious Albion. But *Maria Stuarda* is the tale of two queens and it is just as important to have a top-flight mezzo as Elisabeth as it is to cast Mary correctly.

Decca got this wrong in its *Maria* of the mid-Seventies, which stays the main rival to the new Philips set, when it had Sutherland in good form with plenty of support from Pavarotti as Leicester; but engaged a mediocre Elisabeth. Philips makes no such error. Agnes Baltsa (Elisabeth) and Edita Gruberova (Mary) make a formidable partnership on record, as they obviously did on stage in Vienna four years ago in a production which introduced *Maria Stuarda* to the Austrians. It is from those performances that the Philips set has grown.

If Mary dominates the final act then the first one belongs to Elisabeth. Here Baltsa is properly imperious, even bad tempered, while she plans the removal of her rival. Baltsa's mezzo shows an occasional gear change as she resists the blandishments of Leicester on behalf of the exiled Mary, but this is a small price for some fervently dramatic singing. The temperature rises even higher at the famous — and fictional — encounter in the park of Forteringa (Fotheringhay would have proved something of a tongue-twister in Italian). It is here that Mary spits out the two words, "*vil bastarda*", which got Donizetti's opera the chop (as well as Mary) before its premiere could take place in Naples in 1834. But before then she had taken such a quantity of abuse from Elisabeth that the reaction seems almost mild.

Gruberova's Mary begins as a melancholy creature, shading her naturally bright soprano so that the Queen of Scotland really is "*opressa, desolata*", as the audience is regularly told. The long cavatina at the beginning of Act II in which Mary pines for the gentle breezes of France is handled with great delicacy, as is the final prayer for heaven not to vent its anger on Britain when her head rolls from the block. Throughout, Gruberova resists all temptation to show off and instead preserves a silken, melodic line, very much in keeping with Donizetti's saintly heroine. As in Vienna, Francisco Araiza is the Leicester, a rather wishy-washy figure who is batted like a shuttle-cock between the two queens.

His tenor sounds a bit fuzzy in the Act I cavatina, but then comes into its own in duets with the ladies, rivals for the throne and for him. The bass role of Cecil is even more anonymous and Simone Alaimo does not make too much of it.

Otherwise this is a highly recommended set, excellently conducted by Giuseppe Patanè, who excels in the mighty sextet which closes Act II. Since his death last summer, opera sets seem to have been pouring out under his baton and the quality has been uniformly high. During his lifetime he was sadly underrated.

Poliuto came four years later in 1838 and this is the Donizetti where tenor and soprano march off, in stirring duet, not to the scaffold but to be thrown to the lions. The action takes place in Roman-occupied Armenia, a part of the world riven by dissent even in AD250. The duet in question, "Il suon dell'arpe angeliche" is the best known number in the score — Verdi must have had it somewhere at the back of his mind when he wrote his tenor/soprano duet for *Forza* Act I, as Scottish Opera's impressive first staging of that opera reminded us last month.

Donizetti surely knew he had written a hit, because he used it in the overture, where Oleg Caetani makes the Vienna Symphony give it an almost goose-stepping rhythmn. José Carreras, as Poliuto, the noble Armenian who ends by embracing the Christian religion, invests it with plenty of heroics. And there is the key to *Poliuto*: it needs a tenor with a clarion voice and, in view of the period in which it is set, a good pair of legs. Franco Corelli must have fitted the role admirably in both respects and, although I cannot vouch for it, Lauri-Volpi probably did before him.

CBS's recording comes from performances in Vienna's Konzerthaus — the Austrian capital really has been going in for Donizetti's serious operas — in 1986 before Carreras fell prey to leukaemia. It is a ringing, heroic performance in just the right style. Katia Ricciarelli is in the dreamy, almost moony mood Joan Sutherland once used for Donizetti — many beautiful notes, not much drama. Juan Pons is steadiness itself as the Roman general Severo, but Laszlo Polgar simply rumbles away as the high priest Callistene.

By coincidence, there is another recording of the opera on the Nuova Era label of a live performance from the Rome Opera. The sound is muddy and the principals several notches below those on CBS: Nicola Martinucci strains for too many of his notes, Elisabeth Connell in the Ricciarelli role allows too much pinched tone and only Renato Bruson (Severo) sounds happily cast.

Poliuto, with its military marches and its echoes of *Norma*, kept its place in the repertoire long after Donizetti's excursion into British history was forgotten. Perhaps it is due for a revival: the Wexford public would adore it.

ROS DRINKWATER

Tenor with a clarion voice: when José Carreras sings the title role of Poliuto, the noble Armenian who ends by embracing the Christian religion, he invests it with plenty of heroics

CLASSICAL UPDATE

Martin: Le Vin herbé Soloists/Desarzens (Jecklin-Disco JD 581/2-2) (two CDs)
The pick of several Frank Martin recordings restored for the composer's centenary: this is his Tristan as choral ballad, luminous and cool, and totally innocent of Wagner, though perhaps not of the Tristan opera Debussy might have written.

Boulez: Improvisations sur Mallarmé I-II, Le Marteau sans maître, Figures-Doubles-Prismes Various musicians (Stradivarius STR 10028)
The early performances of the Mallarmé settings (1959, under Boulez) and *Le Marteau* (1961, under Maderna) are of archival interest, but the *Figures* is something more: the first available recording of an abundant modern masterpiece.

Berlioz: La Damnation de Faust Soloists, Edinburgh Festival Chorus, Lyons Opera Orchestra/Gardiner (Philips 426 199-2) (two CDs)
This performance from the 1987 Berlioz Festival is led by Michael Myers, a compelling singer in the Vickers mould, though too often here worryingly strained. There is a vivid Mephistopheles from Jean-Philippe Lafont and a lovely Marguerite from Anne-Sofie von Otter, and the choral singing sounds as French as the orchestral playing.

Debussy, Ravel: Quartets Emerson (DG 427 320-2)
Supremely virtuoso playing puts every note in place to render the rich and varied textures perfectly. The Emerson also respond beautifully to Debussy's rhythmic subtlety, and even bring out unexpected wit.

JAZZ UPDATE

Frank Morgan Mood Indigo (Antilles 91320)
After a career dogged by drug addiction, the West Coast alto player unleashes a dashing quartet recording.

Bobby Watson & Horizon The Inventor (Blue Note CDP 79195)
The opening number, "Heckle Jeckle", bustles with the kind of energy that would put a hip-hop band to shame. If the second half of the date amounts to more workmanlike bop, Watson's alto rarely lacks presence.

Ben Webster King Of The Tenors (Verve 837431)
The great tenor man at his best in the early Fifties. Assisted by Benny Carter, Harry Edison and Oscar Peterson.

Keith Jarrett Standards II (Verve Video CFV 10242) (60min)
A faithful video document of the pianist's popular trio.

Carmen McRae Live (Verve Video CFV 10282) (60min)
Another Tokyo date. McRae is at her most compelling in the brief interlude when her musicians leave her alone at the electric and acoustic piano.

Bright side of bossa nova

JAZZ

Clive Davis

Stan Getz The Girl From Ipanema — The Bossa Nova Years (Verve 823611) (four compact discs/cassettes)
Astrud Gilberto The Astrud Gilberto Album (Verve 823009)

Was this Stan Getz's finest hour? His followers may have other preferences, but in purely commercial terms there can surely be no argument. The five albums in this set represent one of the last occasions when a straight jazz musician could compete with pop stars.

Released in 1962, the first of Getz's bossa nova albums, *Jazz Samba*, lasted 70 weeks in *Billboard*'s pop album charts. *Getz-Gilberto* — a masterpiece by any standards, jazz, pop or otherwise — notched up 96 weeks.

The bossa nova boom soon went the way of the hoola-hoop, partly because of the inferior albums that flooded out from all quarters. It is chastening to think that *Getz-Gilberto* came close to remaining in the vaults because executives apparently felt the market was saturated. Getz was ready to move on by 1964. When he makes his concert hall appearances today he may, if we are lucky, play one Latin-influenced piece. Otherwise the bossa nova is now the preserve of second-raters whose approach has been summed up by author Brian Priestley: "Let's do an up-tempo piece, then something medium followed by a ballad, and then we can brighten things up with a bossa."

No wonder the form has fallen into disrepute. The Getz dates are a reminder of how potent it could be in the right hands. Though four discs may sound too much, the variety of settings and the melodic strength of Getz's tenor saxophone keep boredom at bay.

From a strictly jazz point of view, the strongest cuts are those from *Big Band Bossa Nova*, which brings Getz together with a line-up including trombonist Bob Brookmeyer, playing charts by Gary McFarland. The old complaints that Getz sold out to commercialism simply do not stand up against this evidence. The two remaining albums are more routine affairs by comparison, though they have their separate points of interest. *Jazz Samba Encore*, made in 1963 with a group featuring the guitarist Luiz Bonfa, was the first Getz record actually to rely on Brazilian musicians (*Jazz Samba*, of course, having been a collaboration with Charlie Byrd). Getz/Almeida provided space for the veteran Laurindo Almeida, a guitarist who could claim some credit for pointing the way towards the jazz bossa nova in the early Fifties.

The boxed set also includes some odds and ends that are worth more than passing attention. Three pieces — including a moody re-run of "Girl From Ipanema" — come from the finale of Getz's October 1964 Carnegie Hall concert with João and Astrud Gilberto.

Apart from being a stunning showcase for João Gilberto and Antonio Carlos Jobim, *Getz-Gilberto* saw the début of Astrud Gilberto. The story of her appearance on "Girl From Ipanema" is something a film producer might dream up. A housewife rather than a professional singer, she was asked to sing the lyrics in English. Flat, innocent and undemonstrative, her voice brought an indefinable mystique to the music.

Some two years later she was given her own album, with guitar accompaniment from Jobim and strings arranged by Marty Paich. Given Gilberto's limited range, it is often an unequal partnership. Unlike the Getz sessions, the album also sounds dated and naïve. But that, in a curious way, is part of its charm.

ROCK UPDATE

The Beloved Happiness (East West 2292-46253-2)
Camberwell duo of Steve Waddington and Jon Marsh combining the pneumatic pop appeal of New Order and the Pet Shop Boys with the functional dance groove of acid house to spectacular commercial effect.

The House Of Love Fontana (Fontana 842 293-1)
A low-key cracker that amply showcases Guy Chadwick's abilities as a singer in the Ray Davies mould, and as a songwriter with an alert, modern bent, albeit tempered by a mild fixation on the *Beggar's Banquet*-era Rolling Stones.

The Fall Extricate (Cog-Sinister 842 204-2)
Mark E. Smith remains an engaging and frequently infuriating enigma, his group's music is a surreal, grimly cynical concoction performed with child-like incompetence.

Lloyd Cole Lloyd Cole (Polydor 841 907-1)
Workmanlike début for the retiring Cole minus his Commotions. A slow-burning blend of uncomplicated melody and thoughtful lyrics with an understated charm that grows over time.

Striking the right note

CLASSICAL

Stephen Pettitt

Liszt/Berg/Bartok: Piano Sonatas Peter Donohoe (EMI CDC 7 49916 2) (compact disc)

This, if you are a thinking devotee of the piano, is just about the perfect piece of programme planning. Liszt's *B minor Piano Sonata* was the first exercise in that form successfully to fuse the four traditional movements into one, through a complex process of mutual infiltration and of metamorphosis. Berg's *Sonata*, written in the first decade of this century and deceptively labelled Op 1, is also compacted into a single span, and being also in B minor might be thought of as a direct homage, were it not that the composer intended further movements for the piece. All the same, it is an equivalently complex structure, and equivalently rich in ideas and textures. Where Berg's *Sonata*, like Liszt's, is fundamentally Germanic, that of Bartok represents a deliberate reaction to tradition, reinterpreting the form using nationalistic elements, dance and motor rhythms to assert its dynamic arguments.

Peter Donohoe has all the technique that each work requires. There have been riper, gentler interpretations of the Berg, but few pianists can have played this work with a keener awareness of its architecture. In the more grandiose moments of the Liszt, his sound is phenomenally powerful, and the sheer torrents of notes in the first and last sections hold no terrors for him. Again here, the most impressive thing about his performance is Donohoe's awareness of the piece's structure; but a little more poetic indulgence would not have been amiss. No such criticism can be applied to the Bartok, for its own poetry is of a strangely removed, dry and percussive kind that suits the flavour of Donohoe's approach.

There is, by the way, a fascinating filler in Liszt's extraordinary *Bagatelle sans tonalité* of 1885, which strains at the leash of traditional tonality at times more strongly than either of the two later works on this disc.

Palestrina: "Assumpta est Maria" and "Sicut lilium" masses Tallis Scholars (Gimell CDGIM 020)
Tallis: Spem in alium, etc Winchester Cathedral Choir (Hyperion CDA 66400)

In his notes for another excellent Tallis Scholars recording, Peter Phillips makes the point that the repertories of concert choirs and church choirs today are different, even when they are choosing from the same composers. Here, though, is something of a counter-example, since Palestrina's Assumption mass and Tallis's 40-part motet *Spem in alium* are two glories of the 16th century that belong to both. On the other hand, it would be difficult to find two recordings more different in style.

The accomplishments of the Tallis Scholars are by now pretty familiar: their perfection of phrasing through lines of carving, cusped design, their lively soprano tone, their balance that manages to be at once firm and clear, their agreement in changes of speed and loudness that are so smooth and natural they hardly seem to be "performed" at all. These singers are as splendid in the triumphant responding ensembles of the six-voice Assumption mass as in the longer, leaner, imitative textures of the apparently earlier "Sicut lilium" mass, a work which one is unlikely to hear in any church or cathedral, but a beautiful piece, and a striking contrast with the later mass. Both masses are prefaced as usual by the motets (by Palestrina himself) on which they are based, and in the case of *Assumpta est Maria* we hear the plainsong as well.

The Winchester selection of Latin settings by Tallis includes the most celebrated pieces: *Spem in alium*, of course, and also both sets of *Lamentations*, *In ieiunio et fletu* and *O nata lux*. The star of the recording, however, is the cathedral itself, and in *Spem in alium* it seems that the 40 voices have come together only to make the stone sing. There is something majestic about the result; but if one wants to hear the music it would be better to look to Andrew Parrott's concert-style recordings with his Taverner Choir.

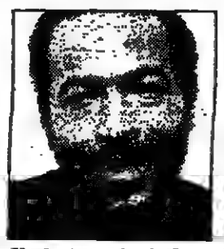
Paul Griffiths

A-Z GUIDE TO ROCK

Part 20 of David Sinclair's collectors' A-Z, a guide to the essential albums of the most enduring performers of rock. To qualify for inclusion in this series, an act must have sustained a recording career of at least 10 years, and have mustered at least one decent album during that time. The entries are designed to be pasted on to index cards and stored in a 6in by 4in filing box, available from most good stationery shops, to form an instant guide to the hits and misses of rock history.

PETER GABRIEL

Peter Gabriel's recordings have always conformed to a standard of perfectionism, but two albums dominate a career that grew from tentative beginnings after his departure from Genesis in 1975. Peter Gabriel (1980), the third of four eponymously titled albums, is an utterly compelling work that explores the theme of mental disorder through a sequence of chilling, dispassionately observed vignettes — "Intruder", "No Self Control", "I Don't Remember" and "Family Snapshot". The album also houses the caustic "Games Without Frontiers" and the moving "Biko", delivered some time before plaints concerning victims of political oppression became fashionable in the rock world. So (1986), with its video award-winning US No 1 single "Sledgehammer", converted Gabriel into an international superstar. With its mixture of measured bombast ("Red Rain", "Big Time") and austere delicacy ("Don't Give up", featuring Kate Bush) *So* has a timeless quality that makes it one of the most enduring English records of the Eighties.



Unleashed: Marvin Gaye

MARVIN GAYE

With the release in 1971 of **What's Going On**, Marvin Gaye *redefined the limits of soul*. Having bucked the Tamla Motown "production line" system by producing and writing the album himself, he created a lavishly orchestrated cycle of songs that captured the spirit of the times and kick-started the development of a social conscience in black music. "Mercy Mercy Me (The Ecology)", "Inner City Blues (Make Me Wanna Holler)" and the title track were all US Top 10 hits and the album had a profound influence on artists from Curtis Mayfield to Stevie Wonder. For **Let's Get It On** (1973) Gaye transferred his attention from the affairs of the world to those of the bedroom, and instigated one of the most unabashed celebrations of sex in the canons of popular music. The definitive Marvin Gaye compilation is **Anthology**. Released posthumously in 1986 its 47 (CD) tracks include the immortal "I Heard It Through The Grapevine" and "Ain't No Mountain High Enough", one of many searing duets with Tammi Terrell.

NEXT WEEK: Genesis, the Grateful Dead.

GARDENING

Francesca Greenoak decides to take the mallet and trowel to the task of preparing for a new season

Catching a weed while it's young

There seems to have been every possible permutation of weather over the past fortnight, from sunny days which would not have been out of place in May, through roaring winds and blinding rain, to clear, crisp, cold which, though it sent me out to pick all the salad greens which coasted through the winter mildness, did not in the end kill them.

Whatever the weather, this is a time of year which makes me *impatient* to be *in* the garden, logging the rapid appearance of new shoots and flowers and getting on with the jobs that call to be done. Bold, large plants such as the various hellebores rise above any clutter of old stems or young weeds, but I don't like the smaller flowers such as primroses and lungworts or the dainty corydalis coming into bloom in scruffy beds.

I prefer hand weeding with a small trowel because it can be carried out with greater discretion than by hoe. Self-seeded columbines, borage and mullein are part of the easy stock in trade of my garden and other plants sometimes find their way in, possibly from seed on my clothes.

A small mauve-pink geranium *(G. nodosum)* arrived by chance, and last year a pumpkin plant, which appeared unaccountably from within a clump of broad beans, provided us with some good winter soups. Three tomato plants (probably bird-sown) found in a flower-bed last autumn are now flowering and fruiting in pots in my conservatory.

Weeding is quite easy when the weeds are small and come easily from damp soil (even in lawns). Compost, an all-round fertilizer, or soil conditioner such as seaweed meal, can be applied at the same time. The weedy gatherings go to enrich the compost heap (with the possible exceptions of bindweed and couch), dandelion and buttercup getting a firm bash with a mallet to prevent possible resprouting. Long sessions of weeding are a complete bore, but an odd few minutes here and there on a nice day are a positive pleasure. I make best progress with a narrow-bladed trowel, and am using a handy new acquisition called Le Trug, a well-balanced and light plastic copy of a French grape basket, for almost all the dirty jobs such as collecting weeds, potatoes or root vegetables.

Snowdrops, which came into bloom early this year, are now fading and may be split up or moved. This is a good time to take stock of early flowers, making a note of the best daffodil varieties, for example, and noting where to augment drifts of favourite kinds. In my opinion, the most beautiful anemone is the native *Anemone nemorosa*, but this year the early blue-flowered *Anemone blanda* (which must be one of the easiest flowers to grow) made an attractive début planted through a clump of low-growing, purple-leaved bugle (*Ajuga reptans* Atropurpurea).

Flowers for the house are still limited in choice, though primroses are in good supply for small posies. Horse chestnut, forsythia and cherry plum stems picked in bud will open within a few days to make a dramatic show in a large vase. The red and gold stems of dogwoods can be used to provide extra colour in an arrangement, after you have carried out the pruning of those plants required at this time of year. Cutting back ensures a good crop of young stems for next autumn and winter. The popular red dogwood *Cornus alba* (which includes Sibirica, also known as Westonbirt, the variegated Elegantissima and Sibirica Variegata) should have all stems cut down to their base. Treat the yellow stemmed *Cornus stolonifera* Flaviramea in the same way. Willows such as *Salix alba* Chermesina (orange-red stems) or Vitellina (yellow) should be cut back fully only once every two years or have half the stems pruned out each year. If you wish to increase your stock, prunings treated as cuttings may root in shallow silt sprinkled with gravel.

● *Le Trug is available at Sainsbury's Homebase stores and some garden centres, or mail order, £4.70 (plus £1.80 p&p) or £9.20 (plus £2.50 p&p) from The Van Gogh Chair Company, PO Box 134, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX16 8AZ.*

CLARE ROBERTS

WEEKEND WALK

Start from the large parking area beyond Fingle Bridge, well-signposted on the approach roads to the north-east Dartmoor village of Drewsteignton. Return over the packhorse bridge and take the signposted path to the left. It keeps close to the river, passing through oak trees.

Climb the steps up, over and down a rocky buttress that drops to the water's edge. Continue through the woodland.

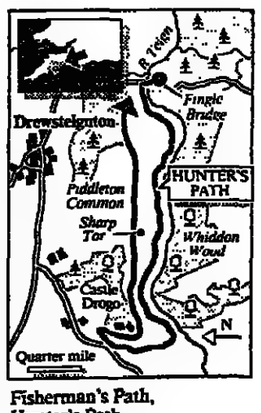
At the metal bridge turn right and climb to join a reinforced lane. Stride on to a gate on the right – the Hunter's Path and the entrance to the Drogo Estate. Continue along the steadily rising path.

The path makes a dog-leg turn before passing below Castle Drogo, the 20th-century castle built by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

Pause on the seat at Sharp Tor to enjoy the view out over Dartmoor.

Take the right fork where the path branches to drop steadily, first through birch, and then oak.

Turn right at the end of the footpath and cross the bridge to the carpark.



Fisherman's Path, Hunter's Path, Drewsteignton, north-east Devon. 4½ miles.

Mary Welsh

WEATHER EYE

The storminess of this winter raises questions about how it compares with extremes of the past. But such comparisons are not easy, as windspeed figures are not as simple as standard temperature, rainfall and sunshine records.

Windspeeds are not only variable, but highly dependent on the locality. Gusty conditions can produce variations of a factor of three or four in less than a minute. The topography, combined with the presence or absence of trees or buildings, can also produce substantial differences over short distances.

Standard meteorological practice is to make measurements at a height of 10m (33ft) in an open site. Other measurements can be corrected to this height using empirical formulae. The average windspeed at head height is generally 20 per cent less than at 10m, while at a height of 30m (100ft) it is 20 per cent greater. Extreme gusts vary less with height.

On the basis of extreme gusts, the recent stormy period is not that exceptional. Only the storm on January 25 produced notable figures, with parts of southern England having gusts that might be expected once every 200 years. For the rest, the extremes have been at a level that might be expected once every decade.

Average windspeeds at specific sites are no more impressive. The figure for Heathrow for the windiest spell between January 25 and February 26 falls well short of the record period of 32 days which occurred in 1967 between February 15 and March 18.

The number of days with gales and the number of storms may be more relevant. Figures can be obtained from measurements of the pressure gradients over the British Isles and translated into an estimate of the overall windiness across the country. But, inevitably, which area to consider and which level of winds to count is arbitrary.

In terms of the number of days with gales, this winter is not that exceptional. But in terms of the number of severe gales, southern Britain has been hardest hit.

So this winter only ranks alongside the other stormy ones of the past. This indirectly supports the widely quoted work of Professor Hubert Lamb, which indicates that the last two decades of each of the past four centuries have been notably stormy. Whether or not this is evidence of a 100-year cycle is still the subject of debate. What is more certain is that the current extremes do not fall outside the natural pattern of British weather.

W. J. Burroughs

WEEKEND TIPS

● Take fuchsia cuttings now – they should flower in late summer.
● Begin planting onion sets (about 4in/10cm apart).
● Begin sowing Brussels sprouts in pots (plant outside from mid-May).
● Plant out pots of bulbs in sheltered places once flowers have faded, having first given them a period of rehabilitation to outdoor life.
● Look out for the spring selection of perennial plants in garden centres: capitalize by dividing or taking cuttings from strong plants.

GARDEN NEWS

The magazine *HORTUS* is introducing a series of "at home" days at Rhayader, Powys, with talks by celebrated garden enthusiasts including Jane Brown, Rosemary Verey and Penelope Hobhouse. The 10 "Hortus at Home" days, running from June to October, start at 10am and finish at 5pm (£38/£48 including lunch and refreshments). Prospectus from *HORTUS*, The Neuadd, Rhayader, Powys LD6 5HH (0597 810227).

Border Lines's gardening day courses take groups to famous gardens accompanied by garden lecturers, such as Beth Chatto in her famous Essex garden. It also offers day courses with specialist lecturers at Kiftsgate Court in Gloucestershire and Catton Hall, Derbyshire (spring day course £45, summer course and tour days £46 including buffet lunch and refreshments). Prospectus from Border Lines, Wanford Mill House, Bucks Green, Rudgwick, West Sussex RH12 3JG (040 372 2883).

The Garden School at Treasures of Tenbury is holding a number of one-day courses and demonstrations and short courses at Burford House, next to the well-known nursery and gardens. Courses (available from this month) cost £25 per day and are mostly organized in four-day modules on specific subjects such as "Ideas and plants for small gardens", but any one day may be taken separately. Information from The Garden School, Treasures of Tenbury, Burford House Gardens, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire WR15 8HQ (0584 810777).

The English Gardening School at the Chelsea Physic Garden is increasing the number of its courses this year, offering practical design and horticulture, and drawing, painting and photographing plants and gardens. Courses of single days and longer are available from now, through the summer (prices depend on duration). Information from The English Gardening School at the Chelsea Physic Garden, 66 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HS (01-352 4347).

The Northern Horticultural Society is offering an interesting series of talks, demonstrations and lectures. Many of the demonstrations are free to visitors to the garden and members. Information from the Northern Horticultural Society, Harlow Carr Botanical Gardens, Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1QB (0423 65418).

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SHOPPING

Reports by Nicole Swengley

Crafty ways to make a living

Misconceptions that crafts are quaint and craftspeople cranky seem set to vanish. In the face of collective boredom with mass-produced fashion and furnishings, individually created pieces are becoming much sought after. By the year 2000, when our lifestyles will be inspired by colourful craftwork, the idea that we once craved the anonymity of matt black and chrome will seem an aberration.

Not Pots, Channel 4's six-part television series starting on Tuesday, is a celebration of craft disciplines new and old. Co-produced by Lisa Gee, who runs the South Bank Craft Shop & Gallery at the Royal Festival Hall, London, it focuses on contemporary work by 13 British designer-makers, and investigates why each has chosen their profession and the commercial problems they face.

Tying in with the series, the Crafts Council has mounted "Six Crafts on Four", a touring exhibition showing the work of designer-makers featured in the programmes. A workshop area brings to life the disciplines of basketry, knitting, blacksmithing, weaving, woodworking and jewellery-making.

BASKETRY

British baskets are admired for their quality, durability and traditional shapes, but over the past eight years Lois Walpole has brought them, almost single-handedly, into the 20th century. Ms Walpole studied sculpture at St Martin's School of Art but, realizing how few fine art teaching jobs there were when she left in 1975, she joined the Inner London Education Authority as a part-time basketry teacher.

"I didn't have much experience and virtually had to teach myself from books to stay one step ahead of my students," she admits. When she was invited to take over running the course she revamped the syllabus. Later she became chief examiner in basketry.

It was thanks to her husband, sculptor John Brennan, with whom she now works, that she began to experiment with coloured cane. It was his suggestion that she should transfer her painting interests to baskets by dyeing the cane before working it.

"I still use all the traditional techniques when making the baskets, because I don't believe it is possible to introduce new ones," she says. "But I like working with unusual materials such as plastic tape, typewriter ribbons and washing-up liquid bottles — all nice materials in their own right."

It is important for her that the baskets are functional and not merely sculptural. "I don't mind what people do with them, the challenge is in making something visually striking which can be used."

Her baskets are mainly dyed cane or dyed willow. Half of what she does is made up in small batches by outworkers under the Rapid Eye label. Prices for the bread baskets, linen baskets and waste-paper baskets range from £14 to £90. Some pieces take up to 50 hours to complete, others less than an hour, and they are priced accordingly. But, she says: "People expect baskets to be cheap because they have been brainwashed by the flood of foreign imports which they think are machine-made. In fact, they are all handmade and very cheap because it's virtually slave labour."

● Stockists: The Rapid Eye collection is on sale in London at Contemporary Applied Arts (01-836 6993), Collier Campbell (01-287 2277), South Bank Craft Centre (01-921 0600), Crafts Council shop at the Victoria & Albert Museum (01-938 8434), Bluecoats Display Centre in Liverpool (051 709 5297), Oriel Gallery in Cardiff (0222 395548), and Brewery Court Workshops in Cirencester, Gloucestershire (0285 651566). Walpole accepts commissions (01-515 6014).

● *Creative Basket Making*, by Lois Walpole (Collins, £14.95).

WOODWORKING

Peter Chatwin and Pamela Martin have found a new way of working with wood. Using fast-growing English sycamore, they dye the wood in a range of colours, glue together the wafer-thin sheets of laminate in blocks of colour, looking a bit like liquorice allsorts, and finally machine these into different shapes for boxes, bowls, plates and jewellery.

"We like to start with the wood quite plain and white, then build up the colour. That natural woody quality still comes through the colour and acquires a nice fleck," Mr Chatwin says, adding that they are not trying to disguise the wood but to enhance its qualities. The couple originally trained as metal workers and met in a shared workshop. Soon after establishing their partnership in 1981, they realized that their principle interest lay in making larger pieces; for example, sculptural-looking platters and bowls with an emphasis on the visual rather than the functional aspect.

Spurred on by recognition from the Victoria & Albert Museum, which purchased a bowl for its "Twentieth Century" collection, and by the acquisition of two pieces by Japan's Kyoto Museum, they steered their efforts towards more flamboyant, personal pieces, and hope eventually to forgo jewellery.

Prices reflect the time taken to make the pieces. A bowl, for example, may take two weeks to produce and consequently costs more than £1,000. These "one-offs" are now becoming collectors' items. The couple rarely make to special commission, selling through exhibitions and galleries.

"People are moving away from mass-production," Mr Chatwin says. "Until now, Britain's visual vocabulary hasn't been good. People have been starved of good visual objects, but now that these are more accessible they are being appreciated at last."

● Stockists: Chatwin and Martin products are on sale in London at the Crafts Council shop at the Victoria & Albert Museum (01-938 8434), Contemporary Applied Arts (01-836 6993) and South Bank Craft Centre (01-921 0600), Birmingham City Museum & Art Gallery (021 235 2834), Portsmouth City Museum (0705 827261) and Leicester Art Gallery (0533 554100). Prices, from £40 to £70, include smaller pieces such as brooches and ear-rings.

JEWELLERY

Caroline Broadhead has been influential in pioneering unusual jewellery made from coloured cottons, nylon and acrylic. After training as a jeweller at the Central School of Art, she set up a partnership in 1978 with Nuala Jamison, a classmate, making and selling "the new jewellery" under the tradename, C and N. As well as buttons and buckles for Jean Muir's bi-annual fashion shows, the partnership supplies designers Ally Capellino and Vivienne Westwood.

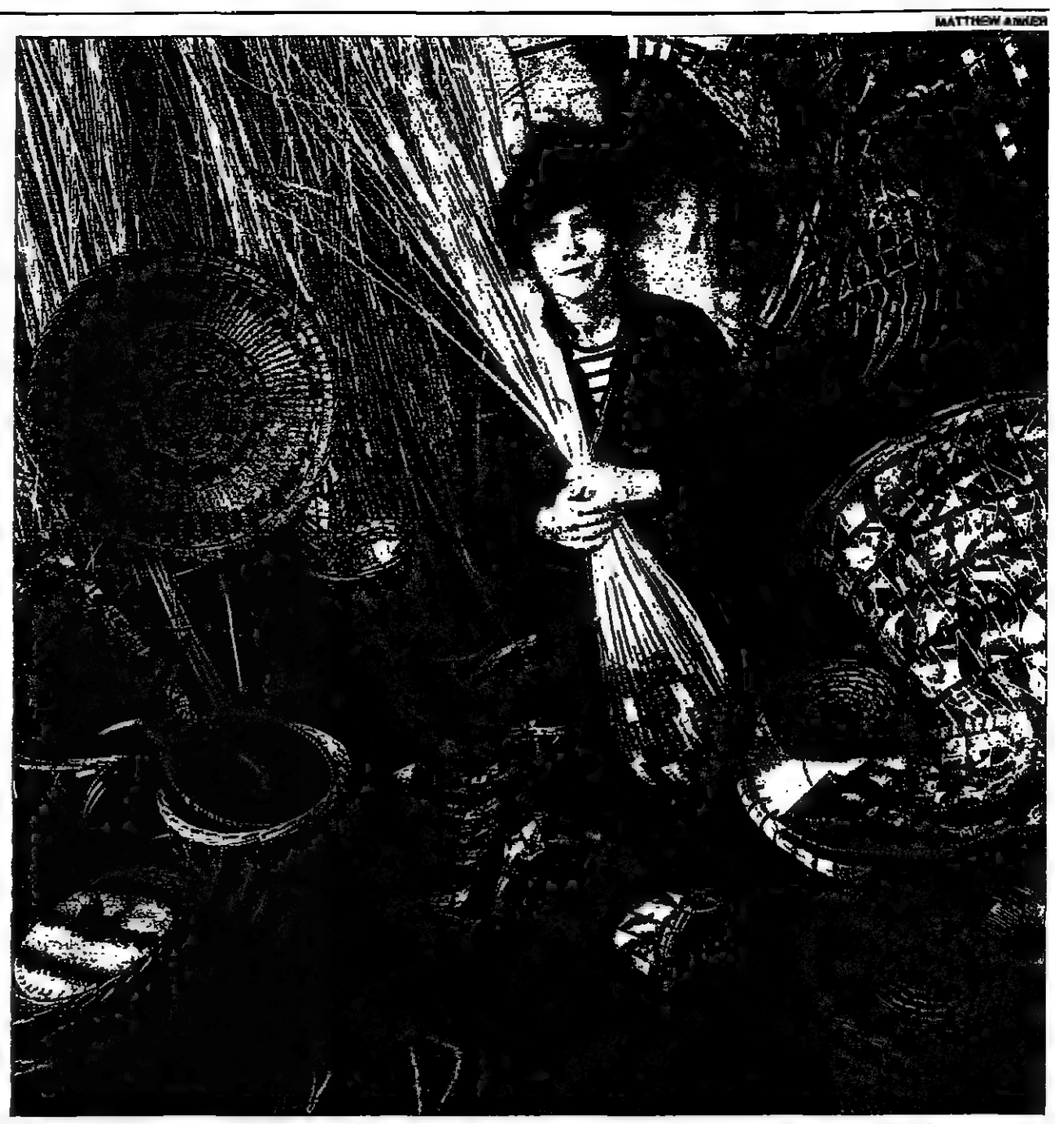
"Although we work with non-precious metals, we try to put as much value into the pieces as possible, exploring new methods of working with materials," Ms Broadhead says.

"Ten years ago people were suspicious of spending money on a non-precious material and our jewellery has always been fairly expensive because of the amount of hand work. It is probably too costly for department stores, but craft galleries take a different attitude and tend to value the work on its merits."

Ms Broadhead does not like working to private, individual commissions, preferring instead to make pieces reflecting her own ideas.

● Stockists: C and N jewellery is available in London at Contemporary Applied Arts (01-836 6993) and South Bank Craft Centre (01-921 0600), Leeds City Art Gallery (0532 464485), Manchester Royal Exchange Craft Centre (061 833 9333), Portsmouth City Museum & Art Gallery (0705 827261), The Scottish Gallery in Edinburgh (031 225 5955), and the Third Eye Centre in Glasgow (041 332 0522). Prices range from about £10 for a pair of ear-rings to £50 for an elaborate necklace.

MATTHEW ANKER



Best on brighter baskets: Lois Walpole cleverly weaves colourful artistic designs into her pre-dyed cane and willow basketry

Dyeing art: Pamela Martin and Peter Chatwin pre-colour wood

Jewellery: Caroline Broadhead uses non-precious materials

'Old Masters' to order

Q: When is an original not an original?

A: When it's an original 'fake'

If you think you have seen Susie Ray's oil paintings somewhere before you are not mistaken. The difference is that the "Gauguin" shown here is destined to hang in a private home or office, rather than the Louvre or National Gallery.

Ms Ray, aged 32, specializes in one-off copies of works by artists as diverse as Gauguin, Renoir, Monet, Whistler, Manet, Stubbs, Caravaggio and Modigliani. Each, she claims, is technically correct, executed in oils on the sort of canvas used for the original, and mounted in a frame in keeping with the original.

Signed "Susie Ray", such paintings are described as being neither fakes nor forgeries, but collectors' pieces in their own right.

These days, Old Masters change hands for millions of pounds. As copies become a more acceptable medium, trained artists are starting to plug the gap in the market for affordable reproductions.

Ms Ray is not alone in her venture. Daniel Delamare runs a similar operation with a studio of artists in Paris, while other copyists work out of Miguel Canals's studio in Spain. But where Ms Ray's works have the edge is in her technical competence and her ability to reproduce the spirit of the original.

A former student at Chelsea Art College, and winner of a first class BA Honours degree in scientific illustration at Middlesex Polytechnic, Ms Ray is modest about her work. "An Old Master takes about eight to 10 weeks to complete; a Gauguin about four. Modern paints and glazes solve about every problem I would have in reproducing exactly the same colours as the originals. I do only one copy of each and never repeat a painting, so they are exclusive.

"I couldn't paint a landscape from imagination, even if I tried. I'm trained to paint what is in front of me. I look at things with an illustrator's eye, not that of a fine artist."

Her work grew out of her large-scale *trompe-l'oeil* decorative murals, commissioned by leading interior designers such as Colefax & Fowler. But it was during a working holiday in Australia that she recognized the potential for copies of well-known works.

"I took a huge risk renting a studio to paint for several months solidly, without income, before my first exhibition in December 1988," she says. "I was quite surprised by the response — all but four paintings sold.

"Then I was invited by the British Museum to appear at its 'Fake' exhibition, where I will be working on a Gauguin. I shall hold a selling exhibition of Gauguins in the studio at the same time."

Ms Ray has almost single-handedly created a new market in the UK for this type of work. She doesn't price the paintings on their rarity value but on the time taken to research and paint each one. This way, she is able to provide estimates for anyone wishing to have their own originals copied, either because they need to sell or because the paintings are too valuable to hang except in a bank vault.

She tackles family portraits, landscapes, animals and wildlife, but points out that she must abide by copyright laws which preclude her reproducing works by artists, such as Matisse or Picasso, who died less than 50 years ago.

At around £1,900 for a Modigliani, and prices for the Gauguins ranging from £3,500 to £5,000 plus VAT, many people would think twice before splashing out on a copy, however good it may be. But Ms Ray insists: "I think they will increase in value." Caroline Oliphant, director of Bonhams the auctioneers' picture department, says: "Good quality copies will always increase their value because of their decorative nature. It's very much a decorative, rather than a collector's, market."

Beauty, after all, is in the eye of the beholder, whoever wielded the brush.

● *"A View of Gauguin" runs until March 21 at Susie Ray Originals, 10 Stukeley Street, London WC2 (01-831 4878). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm.*

● *"The Fake" exhibition at The British Museum, Russell Street, London WC1, continues until September 2. Ms Ray will be painting there until March 21.*

NEIL GENOWER

Portrait of a copyist at work: Susie Ray working on a "Gauguin", which could fetch up to £5,000

After Monet: detail view of Susie Ray's "Yellow Irises"

THE WEEK AHEAD

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Götz Friedrich's new production of Strauss's *Elektra*, conducted by Sir Georg Solti and with powerful performances from Eva Marton and Marjana Lipovsek.
Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066). Mon and Fri.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Revival of David Pountney's gripping production of Prokofiev's *The Gambler*, with Graham Clark returning to the title role and Sian Edwards making her house début in the pit.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161). Wed.

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA: A new and large-scale production by Wolfgang Weber of *Der Rosenkavalier* with Sir Charles Mackerras conducting an interesting cast headed by Rita Cullis and Donald Adams.
Hippodrome, Birmingham (021-622 7486). Tues and Sat Mar 17.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL: The school's Opera Department presents an enterprising French double bill of Ibert's *Angélique* and Falla's *La Vida Breve*. The performance is in collaboration with the London Contemporary Dance School.
GSMD, Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Mon.

SCOTTISH OPERA: The company's powerful new production of *La forza del destino* with John Mauceri conducting his new edition which includes Verdi's original prelude and finale.
Playhouse, Edinburgh (031-557 2590). Tues.

DANCE

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY: Last performance today of the programme including Merce Cunningham's *Doubles*. Ashley Page's *Curutiao*, to a Latin-American score by Orlando Gough, premieres Tues, joined Wed-Sat Mar 17 by Richard Alston's new *Dealing With Shadows*, set to Mozart's music.
Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

SCOTTISH BALLET: Gala premiere on Fri of new programme with premieres of Balanchine's *Scotch Symphony* and *Who Cares?* and Oleg Vinogradov's production of *Paquita*.
Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234) until Mar 24, then touring.

JAZZ

AMERICAN JAZZ AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC: With works ranging from Jelly Roll Morton to Herbie Hancock, the gala brings together Harry "Sweets" Edison, The RAM Big Band and the Academy Jazz String Quartet.
Royal Academy of Music, London NW1 (01-935 5461). Mon.

KENNY DAVERN: First date of a lengthy tour by the American swing and mainstream clarinettist.
The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes (0908 583928). Fri.

EDDIE HARRIS: An early pioneer of fusion, the American saxophonist is best known for "Freedom Jazz Dance".
Bass Clef, London N1 (01-729 2476) Tues, Wed; Brighton Jazz Club, The Concorde (0273 606460) Fri.

JOHN HAYNES

"I must be happy": Alex Jennings, who is playing young Hjalmar, in rehearsals for Sir Peter Hall's new production of Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*

As young Hjalmar in the Peter Hall Company's production of Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*, Alex Jennings (above) says: "I don't like unpleasant things said to me. I have to be happy." Ibsen is not generally regarded as a humorous playwright, but Sir Peter, who has provided a new translation in collaboration with Inge-Stina Ewbank, says of his company's third production: "It is not going to be in the traditional British Ibsen green set, with everyone using hushed voices. We want to release the anarchic and wicked comic spirit of Ibsen. The play is painfully funny. It is, admittedly, very black comedy. I would have thought that the British, whose favourite playwright is Ayckbourn, would appreciate the mordant humour. I have wanted to do the play for some time, but only now has the right cast become available. Alex Jennings and David Threlfall (who plays Gregers) ought to be young men rather than the fiftyish types usually seen. I have Nichola McAuliffe as Gina, Lionel Jeffries as her father, with Alan Dobie as Mr Werle and Terence Rigby as Relling." He adds: "We are touring it for eight weeks before the West End: to Guildford, where I haven't been since the Sixties with the RSC, then York, Manchester, Bath and Cardiff. I hope we can do something similar two or three times each year." Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford (0483 60191). From Tues until Mar 31.

THEATRE

TONY PATRICK

CHESS: National tour of the musical – lyrics by Tim Rice, music by former members ofAbba – begins. With Rebecca Storm.
Plymouth Theatre Royal (00752 669595). Benefit Fri. Opens Sat Mar 17.

DAISY PULLS IT OFF: Jenny Killick directs the spoof based on girls' comics.
Haymarket, Leicester (0533 539797). Previews from Thurs. Opens Mar 20.

HENRY IV: Richard Harris, Sarah Miles, Ian Hogg and Harold Innocent in Pirandello's play, directed by David Thacker, en route for the West End.
New, Cardiff (0222 394844). Opens Tues. Until Mar 17. Moves on to Bath, Manchester, Wimbledon, Guildford and York.

MILL FIRE: Sally Nemeth's play is about the aftermath of an industrial accident. Brian Stirner directs, with Clare Holman, Steven Hartley.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, London W12 (01-743 3388). Previews Wed, Thurs. Opens Fri.

SUGAR HILL BLUES: Kevin Hood's tale of 1940s New York jazzers. With Pauline Black, Stefan Bednarczyk, Okon Jones, Liza Sadovy, Simon Slater, directed by Ted Craig.
Warehouse, 62 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey (01-680 4060). Previews from Fri. Opens Mar 20.

GALLERIES

CHRISTOPHER COOK: New paintings of imaginary landscapes and anxious figures.
Benjamin Rhodes Gallery, New Burlington Place, London W1 (01-434 1768) From Wed.

EDWARD WADSWORTH (1889-1949): A centenary exhibition of work by a pioneer British surrealist.
Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3 (01-435 2643). From Wed.

TRICIA GILLMAN: Recent paintings, occasionally featuring nude figures, which exhibit Matisse-like decorativeness.
Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Alexandra Road, Swansea (0792 655006). From today.

CONCERTS

MAX HARRISON

CAMBRIDGE BACH: Cambridge University Consort of Voices, the King's Consort and many soloists combine under the baton of Timothy Brown to sing Bach's St John Passion.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Mon.

RAIMONDI RECITAL: Supported by the Moscow Conservatoire Orchestra under Leonid Nikolaiev, Ruggero Raimondi sings arias by Mussorgsky, Glinka, Rimsky-Korsakov, Borodin, Tchaikovsky and Verdi.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Mon.

RARE RACHMANINOV: Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducts the LPO in Respighi's seldom performed orchestration of five of Rachmaninov's Etudes-Tableaux.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). Tues.

On the warpath: Rebecca Smart as the heroine of Ann Turner's *Celia*

CINEMA

GEOFF BROWN

WEEKEND AT BERNIE'S (12): Rough-and-ready black comedy, with amiable performances from Andrew McCarthy and Jonathan Silverman as New York yuppies trying to hide their boss's demise. Directed by Ted Kotcheff.
Odeon West End (01-930 5252). From Fri.

CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE (12): Manfred Karge's play about unemployed youths staging a fantasy version of Amundsen's Antarctic adventure, boldly filmed in a Scottish setting by a strong new talent, Gillies MacKinnon, with buoyant ensemble acting.
Electric, Portobello Road (01-792 2020). From Fri.

It started with rabbits. In the 1950s, hundreds and thousands were hopping round Australia; to control numbers, the Government ordered all pets in the Melbourne area to be taken away from their tearful owners. When the authorities bowed to public outcry and arranged for the rabbits to be collected from the zoo, no-one knew which rabbit was whose. This curiosity of history tickled the fancy of a fledgling Australian film-maker, Ann Turner, who worked the story into her first feature film Celia – an astoundingly assured piece of work. In 1984, her screenplay won an award for Australia's Best Unproduced Script; the film reached the screen four years later. Celia, the heroine, is a lively nine-year old whose world never means the same once she discovers her granny's dead body. Fantasy creatures from a children's book haunt her; the next-door neighbours turn out to be – Heaven forbid! – Communists; then her rabbit comes under threat. Celia takes none of this lying down; by the end, this childhood memoir has turned into a horror tale. Rebecca Smart – 12-year-old veteran of films and commercials – plays the title role with a frightening authenticity that makes most Hollywood tots look like little rag dolls. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148), from Friday, certificate 15.

ROCK

DAVID SINCLAIR

JUNGLE BROTHERS: Funky but friendly rap troupe who, like their colleagues De La Soul, have broadened the emotional scope of hip hop to include warmth, humanity, humour and variety.
Town & Country, London NW5 (01-284 0303). Fri.

BROTHER BEYOND: Squeaky clean, classically trained pop group, initially broken by Stock Aitken and Waterman, now a hot property on the US dance chart.
Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 223687) Wed; Sheffield City Hall (0742 735295) Thurs; Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0602 482525) Fri.

HOOTENANNY AT THE PALAIS: Nine-hour (from 3pm) charity marathon in aid of the Cancer Help Centre in Bristol. Featuring Edward II and the Red Hot Polkas, Andy White, God's Little Monkeys, Chris Difford and Glen Tilbrook (of Squeeze), Hank Wangford and Jo Ann Kelly and many others.
Le Palais, London W6 (01-748 2812). Tomorrow.

THE GRAPES OF WRATH: UK debut for Vancouver-based band whose Anton Fier-produced album, *Now and Again*, echoes the Sixties harmony rock style of groups such as the Byrds and Crosby, Stills and Nash.
Borderline, London WC2 (01-497 2261). Tues.

Challenging: wild Irishwoman Mary Coughlan on tour with a new album

Hard-drinking, tough-talking, professional Irishwoman Mary Coughlan returns to the London stage this week at the start of a nationwide tour to promote her latest album, *Uncertain Pleasures*. Born Mary Doherty, she was brought up during the 1960s in Galway town. But having journeyed to London and tried her hand at everything from nude modelling to road sweeping before returning to Galway, marrying and bearing three children, Coughlan was never going to be the archetypal Irish housewife. She recorded a debut album, *Tired and Emotional* (released in 1985), on a shoestring budget. It was a remarkable achievement showcasing her spirited attempts to apply an American blues singing style to Irish folk-rock while presenting a challenging outlook that combined politics with romance, anger with humour. Since then she has released *Ancient Rain* (1986) and *Under the Influence* (1987). Let down at times by sloppy working practices and soulless backing bands, she remains very much the woman on top.
Katie Reilly's, Waterford (010 35 3517 8036) tonight; Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone (0303 53193) Mon; Dominion, London W1 (01-580 9562) Wed and Thurs.

BROADCASTING

STALIN: Ambitious three-part biography of the Soviet tyrant, with *glasnost* giving executive producer Phillip Whitehead and his team access to first-hand witnesses and much little-seen archive film.
ITV. Tues, 10.35-11.35pm.

THE LAVENDER HILL MOB (1951): Alec Guinness as a timid bank clerk robbing his own bank with the help of Stanley Holloway and Sid James. Classic Ealing comedy directed by Charles Crichton, who made a triumphant screen comeback with *A Fish Called Wanda*.
BBC2. Thurs, 6-7.20pm.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BAUHAUS PHOTOGRAPHY: Important show of 125 pictures (1920-36) by teachers at the influential experimental German art school, including innovative photographer Moholy Nagy.
Goethe-Institut, Princes Gate, London SW7 (01-581 3344). From Thurs.

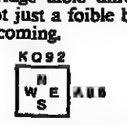
WHISPER OF THE MUSE: Exhibition of 60 photographs by Victorian amateur Julia Margaret Cameron. The works not only trace the influence she had on her contemporaries but highlight some of her own sources of inspiration.
Colnaghi, 14 Old Bond Street, London, W1 (01 491 7408). From Wed.

Dramatic voice: Michael Chance

Michael Chance is one of the most dramatic and musically intelligent counter-tenors to have come out of England since James Bowman, and he will be making his solo recital debut at the Wigmore Hall on Wednesday in a programme of 17th century English lute ayres, accompanied by Robert Spencer. Chance, who divides his time equally between recital work and opera, was one of many young singers who were nurtured and encouraged by the late and lamented Kent Opera: he sang in their Handel *Agrippina*, and Monteverdi *Poppea* as well as in Judith Weir's *A Night at the Chinese Opera*. Last summer he focused on Britten: his Oberon for Glyndebourne's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was followed by an outstanding Apollo with its touring company. Now attention turns, seasonally enough, to the Bach Passions, with a *St Matthew* to be performed at Marylebone Parish Church on Sat Mar 24 and a *St John* at St John's, Smith Square on Thurs Mar 29. The summer takes him to festivals at Ludwigsburg and Utrecht for Monteverdi's *Orfeo*, and he will be taking part in an important new production of *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* for the Netherlands Opera in October. Wigmore Hall, London W1(01-935 2141). Wed, 7.30pm, £5-£8.

BRIDGE

Bridge players are expected to think ahead. At the station the traveller in front of you may exasperate you by waiting for the ticket to be produced before rummaging for the fare. At the bridge table unreadiness is not just a foible but a real shortcoming.



The moment this holding appears in dummy, East knows that, sooner or later, the declarer will lead from hand and play the king. East should decide in advance whether to duck, which is normally good play unless there is an indication to the contrary.

The safeness of ducking may depend on the spot card played by West: does it suggest that the declarer may have a singleton? In that case, East should work out which cards from West will cause him to duck and which not.

Whenever you can see that you may be faced with alternative plays in a suit, try to decide in advance what you will do, so that if you duck when holding a critical card, you can do so without a telltale hesitation. In this deal you are East:

Dealer West. Neither side vulnerable.

North: ♠ 8 7 4 3 ♡ J 9 7 5 3 ◇ A 7 ♣ A 5
West: ♠ A 10 6 ♡ 8 2 ◇ K Q 5 4 3 ♣ J 9 2
East: ♠ K Q J 9 5 2 ♡ — ◇ 9 8 2 ♣ K 7 6 3
South: ♠ — ♡ A K Q 10 6 4 ◇ J 10 6 ♣ Q 10 8 4

W	N	E	S
No	No	3♠	4♡
4♠	6♡	No	No
No			

Opening lead: ♠A

South ruffs the opening spade lead, cashes the A-K of trumps, West following, and leads a club to the ace and a club back.

You should duck this trick, a play that cannot cost. If South has the queen and can establish it the slam cannot be beaten, as dummy's losing diamond will go away. The only chance is that West has the queen of clubs or that South will misguess – as he probably will if you don't let the cat out of the bag by hesitating.

The time to have worked this out was when discarding on trumps. In that kind of situation, to show that you are not thinking about the current trick, you can place your card face down on the table and not expose it until ready.

For the declarer it should be routine, when the opening lead is made, to pause before playing from dummy, even when the play is automatic. This may allow declarer to work out the best card to play from his own hand, to leave opponents in doubt.

Here is a quiz where you have to do just that. You are in a trump contract and this is a side suit. East has overcalled in this suit and it is clear to you, though not necessarily to East, that the opening lead from West is a singleton.

In each case West leads the 7 and East plays the honour that will win the trick: that is, the queen in (1), the king in (2) and (3), and the ace in (4).

Which card should you play from your own hand, to keep East guessing? You should assume that the only consideration is to deter a continuation.

1 DUMMY K 8 5 4 DECLARER J 10 9

2 DUMMY J 9 6 3 DECLARER Q 5 4

3 DUMMY J 9 6 3 DECLARER Q 8 4

4 DUMMY J 9 5 2 DECLARER K 4 3

Solutions:

(1) The correct card is the 10. East may then place his partner with J-9-7. If you play the 9, East will work out that West would not have led the 7 from J-10-7. If you play the jack, he will work out that West has not led from 10-9-7.

(2) You should play the queen. From East's angle, this could be a singleton, but the 5 or 4 could not, as West would then have Q-7-4 or Q-7-5 and would not have led the 7.

(3) This time the 4 from the closed hand is the only play that may work. East may think that his partner has led from Q-8-7.

(4) If you play the 4 or 3, East will know that West started with either 7-x or a singleton, and that it is safe to continue. You should therefore play the king. If it works, you can dine out on the story for a month or two.

Albert Dormer

CHESS

Kasparov has added one more tournament victory to his remarkable and, indeed, record run of successes. Not since 1981 has he failed either to win first prize outright or at least tie for first place in any international tournament in which he has taken part. His win at Linares must have been particularly gratifying for him, in that he emerged on top after a vicious struggle against a generation of Soviet players even younger than himself. After seven rounds Kasparov appeared to be running away with the event, but then in round eight, after he mixed up his opening systems, he went down in uncharacteristically feeble style to Boris Gulko. It was only in the final round that Kasparov nosed half a point ahead by defeating the Spanish grandmaster Illescas, while his rivals could do no better than draw.

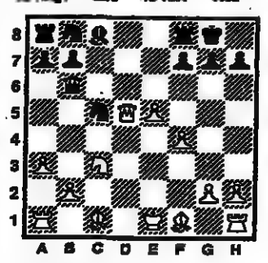
Boris Gelfand, a 21-year-old from Moscow, is establishing a reputation as the principal future threat to the Kasparov-Karpov duopoly. This week's game sees him swiftly despatching a great name from a former era.

White: Boris Gelfand; Black: Boris Spassky. Nimzo-Indian Defence, Linares, February 27.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6
3 Nc3 Bb4 4 f3

A somewhat unusual system but one that is gaining in popularity. Black's best response is probably 4...c5 5 d5 Nh5.

4 ... d6 5 e3 Be7
6 e4 c5 7 cxd5 exd5
8 dxc5 Bxc5 9 e5 Nfd7
10 Qxd5 0-0 11 f4 Bxg1
12 Rxg1 Qb6 13 Rf1 Rc8



Black's pawn sacrifice looks promising since White cannot yet castle and Black is on the verge of establishing a dominating lead in development. Nevertheless, with a few powerful strokes Gelfand demonstrates that Black's compensation is illusory.

14 b4 Ne6 15 Ne4 Qc7
16 Be3 Nc6 17 Qd6

A fine move, forcing the exchange of queens which cements White's advantage.

17 ... Qxd6 18 exd6 Re8
19 Kf2 Bd7 20 Rac1 Nxc5
21 bxc5 Nb6

An amazing move, but transferring his knight to d7 is the only way to gain any counterplay.

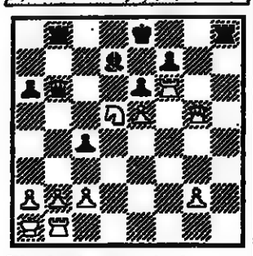
22 Rb1 b6 23 Bb6 Bxa4
24 Bxc5 Bxb5 25 Rxb5 Nd7
26 Bb4 g6 27 Rc1 Re6
28 Rc7 a5 29 Rxa5 Rxa5
30 Bxa5 Rxd6 31 Bb4 Rd5
32 e4

Black resigns

Ultimately he cannot prevent the promotion of White's extra passed "a" pawn.

● Popular Chess *is a new magazine published by chess enthusiast Victor Mathias, designed to appeal to less experienced players. For a sample copy, write to him at 235 Hackney Road, London E2 8NA.*

WINNING MOVE



Black plays and wins.

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times* Winning Move Competition, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a *Times* wallet-sized personal chess computer. The winning move will be printed in *The Times* next Saturday.

Solution to yesterday's position: 1 Qxh6+ gxh6 2 Rg8 mate.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Qxh7+.

The winners of last week's competition are: H. McDonald, Birkenhead, Merseyside; Neil Parrack, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire; Peter Booker, Wistow, North Yorkshire.

Raymond Keene

Linares Tournament, February 18-March 3

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	Kasparov USSR	*	½	½	1	1	1	0	½	1	1	1	½	8
2	Gelfand USSR	½	*	1	½	0	0	1	1	1	½	1	1	7½
3	Salov USSR	½	0	*	½	1	1	½	½	½	1	1	½	7
4	Ivanchuk USSR	0	½	½	*	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	6½
5	Short UK	0	1	0	½	*	½	1	1	½	0	1	½	6
6	Yusupov USSR	0	1	0	½	½	*	½	½	1	½	0	1	5½
7	Gulko US	1	0	½	½	0	½	*	0	½	1	½	1	5½
8	Beliavsky USSR	½	0	½	0	0	½	1	*	1	1	0	½	5
9	Spassky France	0	0	½	½	½	0	½	0	*	½	1	½	4
10	Portisch Hung	0	½	0	0	1	½	0	0	½	*	½	1	4
11	Illescas Spain	0	0	0	½	0	1	½	1	0	½	*	½	4
12	Ljubojevic Yug	½	0	½	0	½	0	0	½	½	0	½	*	3

CROSSWORD

CONCISE NO 2123

Prizes of the Collins Concise Dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 15. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, March 17.

ACROSS
1 Large prawns (6)
4 In bed (4)
7 Feather, fur scarf (3)
9 S France winter wind (7)
10 Type character curl (5)
11 Slow down and stop (3,3,2,5)
12 Greenwich clipper (5,4)
16 Grilling (13)
19 Personnel (5)
20 Beseech (7)
21 In favour of (3)
22 Sprint (4)
23 Support (6)

DOWN
1 Dark, dismal (6)
2 Fire-raising (5)
3 Chase (7)
5 Maniacal (7)
6 Slander (6)
7 Edward V murder site (6,5)
8 In current state (2,2)
12 Sailor's sword (7)
13 Converter plug (7)
14 Overlooked (6)
15 Grab (6)
17 Jazz ostinato (4)
18 Maladroit (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 2122
ACROSS: 8 Lowbrow 9 Epoch 10 Gin 11 Breakneck 12 Treen 14 Grafter 17 Snarled 19 Image 22 Will-power 24 Cue 25 Gorge 26 Railing
DOWN: 1 Blight 2 Twinge 3 Tribunal 4 Two-edged sword 5 Jerk 6 Honest 7 Choker 13 Ran 15 Acid rain 16 Egg 17 Sewage 18 Allure 20 Arctic 21 Energy 23 Prey

The winners of prize concise No 2117 are: E. Hanscombe, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol; Mrs N. E. Bailey, Benson, Wallingford, Oxfordshire.

SOLUTION TO NO 2117 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Scruff 4 Acre 7 Hue 9 Restive 10 Rocks 11 West Side Story 12 Renounced 16 Come into force 19 Nudge 20 Re-enact 21 Mrs 22 Yank 23 Eschew
DOWN: 1 Screwy 2 Risks 3 Frisson 5 Cuckold 6 Essays 7 Headhunters 8 Eros 12 Ramadan 13 Coffers 14 Scanty 15 Bestow 17 Idem 18 Reach

Name .....
Address .....

Gascoigne under starter's orders

By Dennis Signy

Paul Gascoigne, the Tottenham Hotspur midfield player, Bobby Robson has criticized for his temperament and also described as "daft as a brush", earned a commitment from the England manager yesterday for a senior appearance for England in one of the next two internationals in preparation for the World Cup finals.

Robson told a Football Writers Association lunch in London that over the next two matches, against Brazil at Wembley on March 28 and Czechoslovakia on April 25, David Platt, of Aston Villa, and Gascoigne would be in the starting team if they were fit.

Platt is expected to be the man to replace Bryan Robson, the injured captain, against Brazil. Bobby Robson said: "I have no fears about him. He has not looked out of place when he has come on as a substitute." But, referring to Villa's defeats in their last two games, Robson said: "The team has dipped. He has dipped."

Robson, who had admitted he would make one experiment in the international against Brazil, made it clear that he knows his ideal formation for the World Cup.

He indicated that the Manchester United pair, Bryan Robson and Neil Webb, who are named as non-playing members of the squad against Brazil, both stood a chance of playing in the midfield.

Webb, who has not played this season through injury, has been pencilled in for a reserve team game by United on March 24, which is sooner than anticipated, and if he recovers form as well as fitness, he could play in a B international against Czechoslovakia or Denmark later in the season.

Robson said he was including the pair in the squad to let them know they were not out of mind: "For Webb it is a nice impetus," he said.

An indication that latecomers might find it hard to force their way into the side, came when he said: "The team I envisage in the World Cup has to play at least twice in the five games we have before Italy."

With David Seaman and Dave Beasant named in the B international against the Republic of Ireland in Cork on March 27, Robson exploited his wealth of goalkeeping talent.

Peter Shilton, even aged 40, is still undoubtedly No. 1. Robson said that Shilton "was going like a bomb". Dave Sexton, one of Robson's lieutenants, had watched the goalkeeper playing for Derby County against Sheffield Wednesday last Saturday and had reported that, but for him, Wednesday would have won 4-0 rather than by a single goal.

"Chris Woods has been with us a long time and has never let us down" Robson said. Of Seaman he added: "I like him very much. He fills the goal. He is a big guy. He is great on crosses." He described Beasant as very capable and said he too, had not let England down. With a final choice of three for Italy "one is going to be very unlucky".

Although Alan Smith, of Arsenal, and Kerry Dixon, of Chelsea, are both on the fringe, Robson said his choice for the B international was confined by arrangement to players aged approximately 25. He is introducing five newcomers, Matthew le Tissier, of Southampton, Tony Daley, of Aston Villa, the Sheffield Wednesday pair, Dalian Atkinson and Carlton Palmer, and Andy Sinton, of Queen's Park Rangers, whose case has been advanced by Don Howe, the England and Rangers coach.

The England squad for Italy, it was revealed yesterday, will share a bonus of £1.5 million if they win the World Cup. Each of Robson's 22 squad members could collect £70,000, some without kicking a ball. The pool comprises a bonus of £35,000 per player from the Football Association, plus £35,000 from commercial contracts. Progress from the first phase in Sardinia in June would guarantee £10,500.

The overall figure is in excess of that being offered by Scotland to their players for ultimate victory, which has been set at £32,500.

More football, page 53

ENGLAND SQUADS

ENGLAND (to play Brazil on March 28): P Shilton (Derby County), C Woods (Rangers); G Stevens (Rangers), P Parker (Queen's Park Rangers), S Pearce (Nottingham Forest), A Dorigo (Chelsea), D Walker (Nottingham Forest), T Butcher (Rangers), M Wright (Derby County), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest), D Platt (Aston Villa), P Gascoigne (Tottenham Hotspur), S McMahon (Liverpool), M Thomas (Arsenal), D Rocastle (Arsenal), C Waddle (Marseilles), J Barnes (Liverpool), G Lineker (Tottenham Hotspur), P Beardsley (Liverpool), S Bull (Wolverhampton Wanderers).

ENGLAND B (to play Republic of Ireland B on March 27): D Seaman (Queen's Park Rangers), D Beasant (Chelsea); I Snodin (Everton), L Dixon (Arsenal), N Whelan (Arsenal), G Pallister (Manchester United), A Linighan (Norwich), A Adams (Arsenal), D Batty (Leeds United), P Lake (Manchester City), C Palmer (Sheffield Wednesday), M Le Tissier (Southampton), A Sinton (Queen's Park Rangers), A Daley (Aston Villa), P Williams (Charlton Athletic), N Clough (Nottingham Forest), D Atkinson (Sheffield Wednesday).

Gooch raises the standard

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Georgetown, Guyana

Graham Gooch stared out at the rain drilling holes in swelling puddles and shook his head dolefully. It was an unexpected reaction from one who may now be spared instant repayment on a loan from the West Indies, but then Gooch is increasingly a man of surprises.

With Bourda under water after another night of wild, tropical weather, the second Test seems certain to be delayed; much more rain and it could be abandoned. England's 1-0 lead begins to look safe for another game. Still, Gooch was anything but smug.

"It would be easy for me to sit here and rub my hands," he explained. "But I will be genuinely disappointed if we don't play because it would do us far more good to tackle this game and play well again, than sit around watching it rain. It is important for us to keep things going."

Gooch's dispassionate nature is as valuable to his impressionable young players as his vast experience. Since the victory in Kingston he has been imposing upon them sound, stoical doctrine, including the danger of thinking negatively. Hence, his uncharitable view of the rain.

"The principal thing is to stay on top of our game because if we allow our standards to slip, even a little, they will beat us. It is as simple as that. One win has changed nothing. The same criteria apply – they still have the class and the experience. But while I accept that they can play much better than they did in Kingston, I don't subscribe to the theory that we are not capable of improving. We are still learning."

Gooch regards his sudden, popular elevation to hero status with an amused contempt. "it seems that in this job you are either a mug or a mastermind" he chuckles. "It's nonsense, all of it. There is no magic formula – quite the opposite. All I have done is preach the basics of Test cricket – bat as if you mean to stay there for ever and bowl to a tight off-stump line, eliminating bad balls.

"I am never surprised by victory because I am used to winning games with Essex. The nature of our win, the extent of the superiority, might have surprised me, but I am not taken in by it. We are going to have some fluctuations, because we are so inexperienced and we discovered in Wednesday's one-day match the consequences of not being at our best. They beat us very easily."

In 1981, when Gooch and England were last in Guyana, the one-day international was the only cricket played. Even if politics had not intervened, that would probably have remained the case. The prospect of a similar fate weighed heavily on the captain yesterday as he tried to organise something remotely authentic as an eve-of-Test practise session.

Outdoor nets could be discounted and the indoor gymnasium, used by the 1981 team, was vetoed by Gooch, who remembered all too well the uneven contest in that place of torture. "We played five-a-side football matches. There were 16 of us and about a million mosquitoes. The mosquitoes won easily."

Another possible venue was a disused car park where, nine years ago, the unfortunate Robin Jackman bowled his first balls in the Caribbean, thinking they may be his last. "I remember Jackers marking out his run and moaning," recalls Gooch. "He knew about the deportation threat and he wasn't impressed at the thought of flying thousands of miles to bowl in a public car park before flying home again."

More cricket, page 55

Soon after breakfast, Gooch had his players running up and down the sea wall road outside their hotel. "It is partly to make them sweat and partly to give them something to do. Boredom can be an enemy when it rains here and we have to try to keep them occupied."

As watery sunshine in mid-morning gave some encouragement to ground staff, illogically watering the pitch and still talking optimistically of cricket some time this weekend, England went through the motions of team selection. It is to be the same strategy used in Kingston, a seventh batsman preferred to a fifth bowler, and although the off-spinner, Hemmings was included in a squad of 12 he is almost certain to be omitted again.

Historically, Georgetown is a place for slow bowlers, but Gooch is influenced by two factors. The West Indies will have no left-handed batsmen now that Best has successfully seen off Arthurton, and they have replaced a fast bowler, the injured Marshall, with another fast bowler, Ambrose, rather than employ spin.

Marshall, incidentally, has now been absent for four of the last six West Indies Tests on this ground and he may believe he has not missed much. England have neither won nor lost here since 1954, a sequence which seems increasingly likely to continue.

Today's teams

WEST INDIES (probable): C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, R B Richardson, C L Hooper, C A Best, I V A Richards (captain), P J L Dujon, C E L Ambrose, I R Bishop, C A Walsh, B P Patterson.

ENGLAND (from): G A Gooch (captain), W Larkins, A Stewart, A J Lamb, R A Smith, N Hussain, D J Capel, R C Russell, G A Small, A R C Fraser, D E Malcolm, E E Hemmings.

In the shade: Robert Bailey, the England batsman, hopes forlornly for some action in the West Indies after appearing in one match on tour so far. He was again passed over yesterday

Thatcher attacked over trip to make Scottish Cup draw

By Roddy Forsyth

The politics of football, and the role of politics in football, were more in evidence in Scotland yesterday than the customary Friday ritual of appraisal and prediction which normally precedes the weekend fixtures.

The Prime Minister found herself in the middle of a degree of controversy, which centred on the propriety of her visit to Ibrox today, where she will make the draw for the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup.

Since the quarter-finals of the tournament have yet to be played, and the precise constitution of all four ties is not yet clear, there are those who feel that Mrs Thatcher's aid in selecting the semi-final pairings is premature.

In addition, the choice of Ibrox for the performance of the ceremony has been held to be inappropriate since, this afternoon, Rangers are not at home, nor do they retain any interest in the Scottish Cup, having been dismissed by Celtic two weeks ago.

However, it is evident that the Prime Minister is unlikely to confine her activity to drawing names from the ballot, and it seems we may expect an important statement about the Taylor Report and its effect on Scottish football grounds.

Once that is out of the way, some time shortly before noon, we can return to our contemplation of a premier division in which Rangers have maintained a formidable lead while enduring a spell of indifferent form, which has seen them fail to win any of their past four matches.

Today, they make the short trip down the M8 motorway to play St Mirren, aware the trip is likely to be hazardous.

The Paisley club has displayed a remarkable degree of split personality this season, having beaten each of the leading five teams and lost to each of the clubs at the lower end of the division.

"We have lost four matches this season to goals in injury time," Tony Fitzpatrick, the St Mirren manager, said. "I'm not complaining about time being added on to matches, because that is quite in order.

"But I have stressed to the players that they are not allowed to assume the match is over just because the referee is looking at his watch. If we had not lost those goals, we would be in a respectable mid-table position instead of looking over our shoulders all the time."

Rangers, meanwhile, have worries of their own, and seem lethargic and unable to gain purchase on the kind of performance which carried them clear of the chasing pack in the New Year.

With eight League matches left to play, they merely have to deny their adversaries room to manoeuvre, and two points this afternoon would bring the title substantially within reach.

McCoist will return to his forward beat for the champions but Gough and Walters remain doubtful.

The only other match which could alter the destination of the flag, in the event of a Rangers defeat at Paisley, is Aberdeen's visit to Easter Road, where they will meet Hibernian.

TRAVEL

SOLDIERS AND SIGHTS IN TAIWAN

It was only two years ago that martial law was relaxed in Taiwan. The result is a heady atmosphere at once exhilarating and disconcerting. James Melville reports on an emerging tourism which is not for the faint-hearted.
Page 63

NOT JUST A FERRY TERMINAL

Too many people drive off the cross-Channel ferry and straight through Boulogne without realizing what a rewarding town it is, Robin Young writes. He has found restaurants and hotels in and around the town which are a good as those in more fashionable France.
Page 61

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Throughout spring, summer and autumn it is always festival time somewhere in Europe. To help music lovers choose, we publish the first part of Hilary Finch's guide, giving dates and booking details.
Page 62

SEEKING A BARGAIN?

The latest state of holiday bookings is in Travel News.
Page 61

Middlesbrough sack Rioch

By Louise Taylor

Bruce Rioch was dismissed as manager of Middlesbrough yesterday. Colin Todd, his No. 2, will take over at Ayresome Park. Coming just 16 days before the club's first Wembley final, when they will meet either Chelsea or Crystal Palace in the Zenith Data Systems Cup, Rioch's departure is something of a surprise.

After four successive League defeats Middlesbrough are contemplating relegation to the third divison, but that has to be set in the context of Rioch's achievment in raising the club from the third to the first division in successive seasons between 1986-88.

Widely regarded as unfortunate to be immediately relegated back to the second division last season, the Teessiders' subsequent poor League form has been perplexing.

Four years ago, when Rioch succeeded Willie Maddren as manager, the town would have settled for simply having a football club. In August 1986, Middlesbrough was in liquidation, the official receiver had locked the gates of Ayresome Park, and the team played its first home match of the season on Hartlepool's ground.

Many managers would have abandoned the cause but Rioch continued to train the players on borrowed grounds, for no pay. His optimism was rewarded when a consortium of local businessmen rescued the club, and the rise to the first division began.

Rioch produced players of the calibre of Pallister, subsequently sold to Manchester United for £2 million, Cooper, and Ripley. However his insistence on a strict disciplinary code featuring regular sock and beard inspections, grated on some of the players.

Bernie Slaven, the Middlesbrough forward, said yesterday: "Bruce did not like anyone to undermine him. He had a few bust-ups with players who he felt did not respect him, but he is a young manager who will learn. Personally, I stuck by him but maybe he has done all he can here, and it is time for him to go."

Earlier this week, Davenport, a forward, asked for assistance from the Professional Footabllers' Association after Rioch suspended him when he replied "no comment," to a question from the manager regarding his views on last Saturday's defeat at Watford. Nevertheless Rioch was further hampered by serious injuries to leading players.

Colin Henderson, the Ayresome Park chairman, who dismissed Rioch after he refused to submit his resignation, yesterday said the board had reached an "amicable agreement," with the former Derby County and Scotland player. "We both feel it is in the best interests of the club. It is a very sad occasion for all of us, and we wish Bruce well for the future," he added." His contribution to the rebirth of Middlesbrough football club is unique."

New FA thinking over Cup Final tickets

By Louise Taylor

The Football Association may alter its policy of allocating FA Cup Final tickets in favour of the two finalists, at an FA Council meeting next week. This season the competing clubs will be given 51 per cent of the Wembley tickets, with the remainder being distributed between other clubs and associations.

With Wembley's capacity reduced to 80,000, only around 21,000 tickets apiece will be allocated to supporters of the teams involved in this year's final.

In the past the system of allocation has been widely criticized as unfair and last season, in the wake of the Hillsborough disaster, Liverpool and Everton's allowance was increased to 37,500 each. This year Liverpoool, Everton and Manchester United, have said they will waive their allocation, and the FA could decide to ask other clubs to do likewise before officially introducing a new system next year.

Such a change in policy could provide each of the finalists with up to 5,000 more tickets, thus easing a state of affairs perceived as unjust by the Football Supporters' Association.

After the 1988 final between Liverpool and Wimbledon, the trading standards department of Liverpool City Council researched the issue and discovered that in reality many tickets intended for clubs and associations ended up re-sold to genuine supporters at vastly inflated prices on the black market.

The FSA yesterday urged Brent Council to withdraw Wembley's safety certificate if the FA did not amend its ticket strategy.

The Football League is also understood to have put pressure on the FA to re-consider the matter after receiving protests from several clubs.

Taking the High Road to Rugby's World Cup

The luck of the draw offers Scotland's rugby team a home run all the way to the World Cup final at Twickenham on Saturday, November 2 1991.

The prospect of gettin there without once having t leave their fortress at Mur rayfield ought to give the Scot a flying start. It only remain for Ian McGeechan to find team capable of exploi home advantage.

The Lions coach has teen months in which to w the oracle and achieve a which has long proved beyond the reach of Scotla other football team.

As you would expect f such a canny race, the S are leaving nothing to cha They have brought one of t ain folk halfway across world to let David Sole and lads in on a few All Bl secrets.

While four of the F Nations were kicking off t year's championship at Tw kenham and Cardiff, the fi were ensconced at t Gleneagles Hotel listeni with rapt attention to Ji Blair.

He is the Scot who got t All Blacks fit to win the in ral World Cup in 1987 whose training techniques the envy of the rest of rugby world.

"We have our own fitne programme but Jim gave us a insight into New Zealan thinking," said McGeechan "We have learnt a lot from hi visit."

Precisely how much is abou to be revealed, not just in th Five Nations championship b some weeks after the domes season finishes. The acid te will come in June, Scotland challenging the All Blacks on their own paddock in Dunedin and Auckland on successive

Blair. "In New Zealand they're regarded as a side that never takes a step backwards." They have already made a

SPORT ON MONDAY

Simon Sherwood marks your card for Cheltenham
Alan Lee and **David Gower** on the second Test

The Times guide to the Formula One campaign which opens with the United States Grand Prix in Phoenix tomorrow

Light turns green on a season of promise

By John Blunsden

The streets of downtown Phoenix, Arizona, will reverberate to the sound of more than 16,000 horsepower being unleashed from 26 cars when the green light is switched on tomorrow to start the United States Grand Prix, the first of the 16 Formula One races that count towards the 1990 FIA World Championship.

Many changes have taken place since the Formula One cars and drivers last met in battle on the rain-drenched streets of Adelaide last November. Of the 35 drivers signed for the season, only 15 are still with the team with which they finished their 1989 programme. Even the world champion has changed camps, Alain Prost preferring Ferrari to the tense atmosphere which, no doubt, would have prevailed had he spent a third season in the same team as Ayrton Senna. Instead, Gerhard Berger has left Ferrari to replace Prost at McLaren.

Five two-car teams have a new driver line-up – Derek Warwick and Martin Donnelly have given an all-British flavour to Camel Team Lotus, Michele Alboreto and Alex Caffi are the new drivers for the renamed Footwork Arrows, now under Japanese ownership, Ligier Gitanes have Nicola Larini and Philippe Alliott, ESPO Larrousse are running Eric Bernard and Aguri Suzuki and EuroBrun Racing have Roberto Moreno and the newcomer, Claudio Langes.

Missing from the grand prix scene this season through lack of sponsorship are the Rial and Zakspeed teams, though both are bravely predicting a return in 1991, while Subaru Coloni and Osella are running one car each. A new entry is Life Racing Engines, an Italian-based team that will be running a car powered by a W-configuration 12-cylinder engine for Sir Jack and Betty Brabham's middle son, Gary, who will be one of nine drivers subjected to that early Friday morning alarm call and the hour-long tension of pre-qualification at breakfast time; as usual, only the fastest four will join the 26 other contestants.

A new grand prix season always brings hope, and the most fervent of all is that the acrimony which pervaded the motor racing scene last season and the arguments surrounding some of the most prominent and talented competitors, have been put aside.

As Nigel Mansell, who suffered his share of controversy in Portugal last autumn, remarked at a recent get-together with the Press, no individual should consider himself bigger than the sport itself, and regardless of any personal grievances or feelings of injustice there comes a time to stop moaning and get on with the racing.

The familiar four teams are likely to be up at the front – McLaren-Honda, Ferrari, Williams-Renault and Benetton-Ford – but the era of one-team domination may have come to an end.

Honda Marlboro McLaren's track record is outstanding. Team and engine-supplier have been together for only two years but in that time they have won 340 world championship points from 32 races. Ferrari, their closest challenger, could manage only 124, followed by Williams (first with Judd then with Renault engines) with 97 and Benetton with 78. In the course of those two seasons, McLaren drivers won all but seven of the races, Senna scoring 14 times and Prost 11.

In Senna and his new partner, Berger, they have two of of the most spectacular contemporary drivers. They also have a new car, an even more powerful version of Honda's V10 engine, and a V12 already in the wings waiting to be called on stage. Yet this could be a tougher year for the lavishly financed and highly professional team from Woking than either 1988 or 1989. For a reason, one need look no further than the little town of Maranello in northern Italy, the home of Ferrari.

Recent tests suggest that the momentum of the Italian team's progress has accelerated considerably during the winter and, although McLaren are still fielding the most powerful cars, this situation may not persist beyond mid-season, by which time the latest Ferrari V12 engines would be delivering over 7,000bhp.

In Mansell and Prost, they have two of the most talented and motivated drivers in the business and throughout the team there is a burning ambition to put Ferrari back on top.

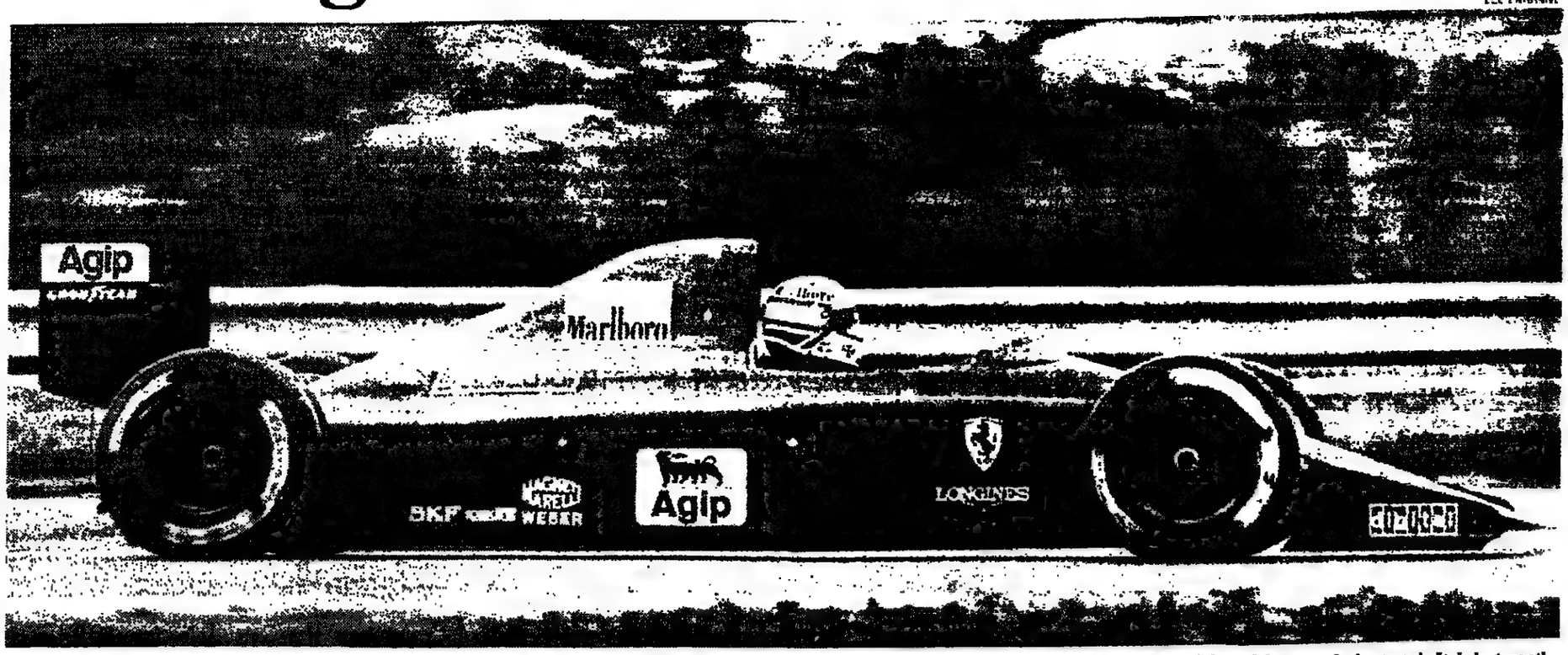
Much, too, can be expected from the Canon Williams team, where Riccardo Patrese and Thierry Boutsen now have the benefit of a well-sorted chassis and a second-generation Renault V10 engine, considerably more powerful than the predecessor that powered Boutsen to two surprise victories last season.

Benetton Formula's fortunes should also be on the rise after an impressive increase in power output from the Ford V8 engine towards the end of last year. The experience and renewed motivation of the three-time champion, Nelson Piquet, plus the exuberance of Alessandro Nannini, could prove to be a strong racing combination, while the establishment of an important new research-and-development division under John Barnard's direction should ensure the growing technical stature of this team.

Many other questions will be answered during the weeks ahead. How much more effective will the Lamborghini V12 engine prove to be in its second season, and can it help give Warwick his long overdue first grand prix victory? How close to the front of the field can the brilliant Jean Alesi – the find of 1989 – take the restructured Tyrrell team? Has the Leyton House (formerly March) team emerged from its 1989 trough and been restored to its 1988 form? How will the new Subaru, Neotech and Life 12-cylinder engines perform in their first Formula One season? Will Goodyear be able to maintain their race tyre supremacy, or has Pirelli been able to back up some excellent qualifying tyres with some winning race rubber?

Meanwhile, the overall prognosis is good. The contest is between 35 drivers representing 19 different teams which in the course of the season will be using nine makes and at least 14 different models of engine. There has never been such variety in Formula One, nor have the prospects for a vintage season of grand prix racing looked so promising.

LEE FARRANT



Britain's driving force: Mansell, who hopes to satisfy his own ambition and his country's expectations by winning a world championship this season, puts his new Ferrari through its paces during tests in Italy last month

HOW THEY FINISHED IN 1989

DRIVERS: 1, A Prost (McLaren-Honda); 2, A Senna (McLaren-Honda); 3, R Patrese (Williams-Renault); 4, N Mansell (Ferrari); 5, T Boutsen (Williams-Renault); 6, A Nannini (Benetton-Ford); 7, G Berger (Ferrari); 8, Nelson Piquet (Lotus-Judd); 9, J Alesi (Tyrrell-Ford); 10, D Warwick (Arrows-Ford); 11, M Alboreto (Tyrrell-Ford), E Cheever (Arrows-Ford), S Johansson (Onyx-Ford); 14, J Herbert (Benetton-Ford), P Martini (Minardi-Ford); 16, M Brundle (Brabham-Judd), A Caffi (Dallara-Ford), A de Cesaris (Dallara-Ford), M Gugelmin (March-Judd), S Modena (Brabham-Ford); 21, C Danner (Rial-Ford), S Nakajima (Lotus-Judd); 23, R Arnoux (Ligier-Ford), J Palmer (Tyrrell-Ford), Emanuele Pirro (Benetton-Ford); 25, P Alliot (Lola-Lamborghini), O Grouillard (Ligier-Ford), L P Sala (Minardi-Ford).

CONSTRUCTORS: 1, McLaren-Honda; 2, Williams-Renault; 3, Ferrari; 4, Benetton-Ford; 5, Tyrrell-DFR; 6, Lotus-Judd; 7, Arrows-DFR; 8, Brabham-Judd, Dallara-DFR; 10, Minardi-DFR, Onyx-DFR; 12, March-Judd; 13, Ligier-Ford, Rial-Ford; 15, Ags-Ford, Lola-Lamborghini.

Loyalty drives Senna back to the arms of the fast life

David Miller

Phoenix, Arizona

Nothing but a sense of loyalty to anonymous engineers and mechanics here in the pits, back at McLaren's in Woking and at Honda's in Japan, forces Ayrton Senna to go to the starting line for tomorrow's opening Formula One grand prix. But for them, and for Ron Dennis, head of McLaren, Senna would already have retired, or would at least be unlikely to complete this season.

"I hope that when I sit in the car it makes me go the way I like to go," Senna said yesterday as he sat brooding over dinner. "Otherwise there is no way I can maintain involvement. I need again that almost trembling feeling when I stand beside the car that you have when you see the woman in your life that you are crazy for.

"When you step into the car, it is like an embrace, your whole mind and body is stimulated, but with an intensity in a car that you cannot find in a woman. You are playing with your life, with unknown factors at every corner, lap after lap. When I came for testing the new car for testing in England this winter, that feeling wasn't there."

When, on Thursday, Senna's controversially issued racing licence was handed to him by Yvon Leon, the General Secretary of FISA, he felt empty: frustrated at having been denied the democratic right to express his view of the disqualification in Tokyo last year which denied him the possibility of retaining the drivers' world championship. Was this piece of paper, he asked Leon with irony, what all the fuss had been about?

A month ago, as negotiations with the vacillating Jean-Marie Balestre, the autocratic president of international motor racing, reached a climax, Senna told Honda's vice president, Kawamoto, and Dennis that there were, for him, two alternatives: for him to resign, or fight it to the courts. As the negotiations became more tortuous, Senna realized he could not push his team, McLaren and Honda and the sponsors, to the brink.

"If I had only myself to consider, then yes," he says. "But if I stopped, I would jeopardize a whole team, who put together something so special with such commitment. I cannot let them down, there is a minimum that I must do for them. All these people need it more than me. I need only the elation of winning."

As for legal action, Senna reflects, he knew how much tension Dennis had experienced for three months, and he sensed that Dennis was over the limit of endurable stress. With his immense respect for Dennis, he did not want to push the team "into dark areas wher we never knew what the other side would do next." When Senna accepted the compromise, it was with a sickened feeling at forfeiting a principle.

"I don't think it was as strong for Ron as for me," he says. "I knew that I was the one who would have to live with it. It left me empty – and now the motivation is not there in the car. That's why I'm feeling relaxed, which is all wrong. I'm hoping maybe the motivation will return during racing. I'm waiting. We don't know yet how the car will be, but if I start winning, perhaps the hunger will return, the motivation of obliging Balestre to hand me that trophy a second time."

What are his chances? No-one really knows until we see how the new cars are responding: the improved Honda V-10 of McLaren, last year's constructor's winner, the Renault V-10 of Williams (second last year), the power-boosted V-12 of Ferrari, for whom Nigel Mansell is now partnered by Alain Prost.

Soch is the influence of the little Frenchman with the Aznavour looks, three times champion, that he was able, as he revealed on Thursday, to demand from Ferarri before he signed for them for 1990 in the middle of last year's campaign with McLaren, that they immediately cease design work for that championship and start re-developing for 1990. Balestre is not the only fount of power in this sport.

Prost will bring to Ferrari, with Steve Nichols, the engineer also signed from McLaren this winter, an unequalled experience for design adjustment during performance.

Yet all drivers are threatened by the fact that design development has the cars literally running away from them during cornering. The G-forces are such that the drivers cannot cope with the acceleration/road-holding capability of the car, and are in danger of blacking out as centrifugal force hurls their head and neck outwards.

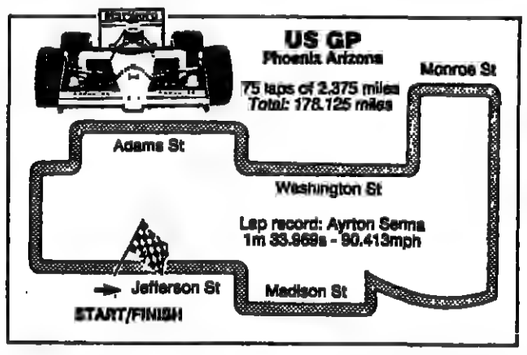
"We are finding our body is on the limit before the car is," Senna said. "If you are very fit, you are aware of your own limits, and it's up to you when to back off. Before the end of the year, as the cars become even faster, we shall experience some real difficulties."

Dennis said yesterday that if it became increasingly apparent to team managers and designers that the situation was getting out of control, then designers would have to look at ways of reducing the problem. Yet as Senna says, reducing the cornering capability of a car – for instance by reducing the track-size and therefore grip of the tyres – may in certain circumstances increase other dangers. "If you are losing control and have to brake, you have less tyre to help pull you up," Senna says.

He and Gerhard Berger are experimenting with new, lighter helmets.

Prost and Mansell are both clearly concerned about the reliability of their new Ferraris, never mind that another 20 horse power has been found, to give them an apparent second or two advantage over McLaren during test runs. Prost says: "We're under pressure."

Tomorrow, on a street circuit where an error of only inches may mean hitting the wall, judgement is on the line: not to say, as always, life itself. Thankfully, temperatures are expected to be 20 degrees below last year's 100 degrees Fahrenheit. It can be a cruel sport. Most of us would happily settle for an afternoon with the woman in our lives.



LATEST BETTING

TO WIN US GRAND PRIX (Ladbrokes): 9-4, A Senna; 5-2, N Mansell; 3-1, A Prost; 7-1, G Berger; 12-1, R Patrese; 14-1, T Boutsen; 25-1, A Nannini; 33-1, N Piquet; 40-1, J Alesi, P Martini; 66-1, I Capelli, D Warwick; 100-1, M Donelly.

TO WIN CHAMPIONSHIP (Ladbrokes): 5-4, Senna; 100-30, Prost; 5-2, Mansell; 7-1, Berger; 14-1, Patrese; 16-1, Boutsen; 25-1, Nannini, Piquet; 66-1, Martini; 100-1, Capelli, Guglemin, Warwick, Alesi, Alboreto, Bernard.

FOUR DRIVERS TO FOLLOW TO THE CHEQUERED FLAG

Alain Prost
Team: Ferrari
Nationality: French
Age: 35
World champion: 1985, '86, '89
GP wins: 39

Ayrton Senna
Team: McLaren-Honda
Nationality: Brazilian
Age: 29
World champion: 1988
GP wins: 20

Riccardo Patrese
Team: Williams-Renault
Nationality: Italian
Age: 36
Best performance: third, 1989
GP wins: 2

Alessandro Nannini
Team: Benetton-Ford
Nationality: Italian
Age: 30
Best performance: sixth, 1989
GP wins: 1

1990 FORMULA ONE TEAM ENTRIES

FERRARI: Drivers: car 1, Alain Prost (Fr); car 2, Nigel Mansell (GB). **Chassis:** Ferrari 641. **Engine:** Ferrari V12. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

TYRRELL: Drivers: car 3, Satoru Nakajima (Japan); car 4, Jean Alesi (Fr). **Chassis:** Tyrrell 018 & 109. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

WILLIAMS: Drivers: car 5, Thierry Boutsen (Bel); car 6, Riccardo Patrese (It). **Chassis:** Brabham BT58. **Engine:** Judd V8. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

MOTOR RACING DEVELOPMENTS: Drivers: car 7, Gregor Foitek (Switz); car 8, Stefano Modena (It). **Chassis:** Brabham BT58. **Engine:** Judd V8. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

FOOTWORK ARROWS: Drivers: car 9, Michele Alboreto (It); car 10, Alex Caffi (It). **Chassis:** Arrows A11B. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

CAMEL TEAM LOTUS: Drivers: car 11, Derek Warwick (GB); car 12, Martin Donnelly (GB). **Chassis:** Lotus 102. **Engine:** Lamborghini V12. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

OSELLA F1: Driver: car 14, Olivier Grouillard (Fr). **Chassis:** Leyton House CG901. **Engine:** Judd V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

LEYTON HOUSE RACING: Drivers: car 15, Mauricio Gugelmin (Br); car 16, Ivan Capelli (It). **Chassis:** Leyton House CG901. **Engine:** Judd V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

BENETTON FORMULA: Drivers: car 19, Alessandro Nannini (It); car 20, Nelson Piquet (Br). **Chassis:** Benetton B189 & B190. **Engine:** Ford V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

SCUDERIA ITALIA: Drivers: car 21, Emanuele Pirro (It); car 22, Andrea de Cesaris (It). **Chassis:** BMS Dallara F190. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

SCM MINARDI: Drivers: car 23, Pierluigi Martini (It); car 24, Paolo Barilla (It). **Chassis:** M190. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

LIGIER GITANES: Drivers: car 25, Nicola Larini (It); car 26, Philippe Alliot (Fr). **Chassis:** Ligier JS33B. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

HONDA MARLBORO McLAREN: Drivers: car 27, Ayrton Senna (Br); car 28, Gerhard Berger (Austria). **Chassis:** McLaren MP4/5B. **Engine:** Honda V10. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

ESPO LARROUSSE F1: Drivers: car 29, Eric Bernard (Fr); car 30, Aguri Suzuki (Japan). **Chassis:** Lola 89 & 90. **Engine:** Lamborghini V12. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

SUBARU COLONI RACING: Driver: car 31, Bertrand Gachot (Bel). **Chassis:** Coloni C3 & C4. **Engine:** Subaru Flat-12 & V12. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

EUROBRUN RACING: Drivers: car 33, Roberto Moreno (Br); car 34, Claudio Langes (It). **Chassis:** EuroBrun 189 & 190. **Engine:** Judd V8 & Neotech V12. **Tyres:** Pirelli.

MONEYTRON ONYX: Drivers: car 35, Stefan Johansson (Swe); car 36, JJ Lehto (Fin). **Chassis:** Onyx ORE-1 & ORE-2. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

AGS: Drivers: car 37, Gabriele Tarquini (It); car 38, Yannick Dalmas (Fr). **Chassis:** AGS JH24. **Engine:** Ford Cosworth DFR V8. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

LIFE RACING ENGINES: Driver: car 39, Gary Brabham (Aus). **Chassis:** Life F189/90. **Engine:** Life W12. **Tyres:** Goodyear.

**For Phoenix, Caffi is replaced by Bernd Schneider (WG) and Pirro by Gianni Morbidelli (It).*

FOOTBALL: FORMER CHELSEA CAPTAIN PUTS FORWARD THE THEORY THAT PLAYERS ARE IN THEIR PRIME WHEN THEY REACH THE AGE OF 30

Wilkins ready for touch of the nitty-gritty

Wilkins: eager to face Liverpool

By Peter Ball

With Liverpool looming on Sunday, Ray Wilkins has been much in demand this week. He is relishing every minute of it, almost licking his lips at the prospect of another big game.

Anyone who thought that the decision to exchange the solid blue shirt of Glasgow Rangers for the hoops of the rather less renowned West London variety marked opting for a winding down towards retirement did not know their man. At 33, with a career at three of football's biggest clubs, Manchester United, AC Milan and Rangers, behind him, his enthusiasm for the game remains undiminished.

As guide and organizer, his influence is likely to be crucial if Rangers are to beat Liverpool. But he is not just an old head, insisting that his legs can still stand up to the rigours of the English first division. After his successful stint in the even faster and fiercer Scottish game, few will doubt it.

"You become a veteran when you lose your hair," Wilkins said. "Alan Hansen is 33 but he's got his hair, so he's not a veteran."

That sometimes seems as good an explanation as any for the English habit of discarding our best players so early. It is not a mistake other countries make: the Belgian, Van Moer, and the Dutchman, Arnold Muhren, both making significant contributions to their national teams in their late thirties.

"I think there is a feeling in English football that, when you reach 30, that's it," he said. "But it's a crazy situation because, when you do get to 30, if you are in good condition, you've gained all the wisdom of playing and, therefore, at international level, you should really be in your prime. International football is a game of chess, and you are pitting your wits *against the opposition.*"

Wilkins's taste for battles of wits is undoubted, and he loved his time in Italy. But, pressed, he admits his preference is for the more physical English game.

"From a footballer's point of view, Italy is a paradise," he said. "Lovely climate, wonderful food. When I was there, we played 30 league games a season. You are playing on bowling greens, beautiful surfaces, and you've got no-one tackling you. You could look up and hit passes all over the field.

"Our game is more unpredictable, so more testing. In Italy, they have the ball; now you have the ball. But in our game, it ricochets off four players and lands at your feet, and you have to adjust the whole time and play it as you see it. Everyone is on the boil the whole time. And it's nice to get in there and hustle and bustle, too. It's nice!"

That taste for hustle and bustle is certain to be satisfied tomorrow afternoon. It is not his natural game, but his readiness for it is very characteristic.

A players' player, taking responsibility is something he has done ever since he came into the game. At times, perhaps, it has been the source of his weakness as well as his strength. His refusal to give the ball away or pass the back is at the bottom of what can sometimes be an over-cautious approach, which at one time persuaded Ron Atkinson to liken him to a crab—"always going sideways".

The gibe is remembered. What is forgotten is that, after his initial doubts, Atkinson was won over and so were the United supporters. They overcame their initial scepticism and twice voted him their player of the year, no mean feat for a midfield which also included Robson and Muhren.

Wilkins insists that he played to orders, but admits that the caution was also a personal response to an unhappy situation. It began at Chelsea, where Wilkins burst on to the scene as a midfield player possessing extravagant gifts similar to those of a man who was to follow him, Glenn Hoddle. But the side floundered and Wilkins found himself, aged 19, captain of a side struggling unsuccessfully against relegation — a heavy burden which naturally inhibited him.

"When you come into the side as a young player, it is nice if you can play with gay abandon," Wilkins agreed. "But we were struggling and, when you are made captain, you do feel an extra responsibility or, at least, I certainly did. I struggled badly with it for some time."

But if he was inhibited, he also recognized the nature of English football. Where Hoddle continued to march to the sound of his own drummer, Wilkins fell into step with the English game.

"You change with the times. The game now demands that everybody works up and down, and you have to change or you get left by the wayside. You have to adapt to what is going on around you.

"We all like to get on the ball and spray it around, but it isn't always possible. Sometimes you have to roll your sleeves up and have a bit of the nitty-gritty occasionally. I'm not a great lover of it, but it has to be done. At Liverpool, they all do it. They all work very hard. So, on Sunday, we have to match that physical endeavour."

It is safe to assume that Liverpool will find Wilkins ready for a bit of the nitty-gritty.

Cold showers may lead to hot water for Palace

By Louise Taylor

FA CUP

Crystal Palace stand between Cambridge United and the distinction of being the first fourth division side to reach the semi-finals of the FA Cup. If United can overcome their first division opponents in today's quarter-final at the Abbey Stadium they will be venturing into territory trodden on by only six third division teams.

Millwall in 1937, Port Vale in 1954, York City in 1955, Norwich City in 1959, Palace themselves in 1976, and Plymouth Agyle in 1984, were all defeated at the competition's penultimate stage.

With the fourth division in existence since 1958 — when the policy of regionalizing the third division into northern and southern sections was ended — progress into the last four would entail Cambridge achieving what none of their peers had managed in 32 seasons. Indeed it is 14 years since a fourth division represenative travelled as far as United have done already; Bradford City losing out to Southampton, the eventual winners, in a 1976 sixth round tie.

Only two other clubs from the league basement have progressed to the final eight; Oxford United in 1964 (the Ron Atkinson playing era), and Colchester United in 1971.

If Cambridge go one better and carve their own slice of history, John Beck, the manager, will have no hesitation in attributing the success to a cocktail of simplicty, hard work, and cold showers before matches.

This managerial brew has produced such a blend on the field that Cambridge have suffered only one defeat in 14 games since Beck succeeded Chris Turner. Intended to eliminate sluggishness, the cold water treatment has already helped United douse the FA Cup aspirations of Millwall, from the first division, and Bristol City, the then third division leaders.

The upshot is that interest in a town dominated by the University on one hand, and a burgeoning computer industry on the other, has escalated to the point that tickets for the fifth round replay against Bristol City exchanged hands for £50, 10 times their face value, on the black market.

It is unprecedented behaviour on the part of locals who are more inclined to spend Saturday afternoons on bicycles than packing the Abbey Stadium (average attendance 2,500).

Such ambivalence towards football is hardly surprising considering that United's League history dates from as recently as 1970. Since then Cambridge have risen to the second division and fallen back to the fourth but not before they finished a mere five places away from promotion to the first division in 1979-80, a feat that will pale into insignificance if Palace are seen off today.

Seven second division teams have managed to upset the status quo and actually win the Cup: they are; Notts County in 1894, Wolverhampton Wanderers in 1908, Barnsley in 1912, West Bromwich Albion in 1931, Sunderland in 1973, Southampton in 1976, and West Ham United in 1980.

Hot line: The phone never stops ringing for John Beck, Cambridge United's manager, while his club remain in the FA Cup

Addison's Spanish challenge

By Chris Moore

Colin Addison, the former Derby County and Hereford United manager, returns to Spain tomorrow to take charge of the Spanish first division club, Cadiz, for the rest of the season.

Addison has been out of work since being dismissed as manager of Atlético Madrid last May. Cadiz are one from bottom of the table and are hoping Addison can save them from relegation. "There's nothing definite after that, but if I can keep them up there's talk of a contract at the end of the season," Addison said.

Addison has had two previous spells in Spain. He led Celta to promotion from the second division three years ago, and took over as manager of Atlético Madrid 14 months ago after Ron Atkinson had been *dismissed.*

But although they qualified for the UEFA Cup, he became the eighth manager in two years to be dismissed by Jesus Gil, Atlético's all-powerful president.

His successor, Clemente, was dismissed by Gil last week even though Atlético are second in the table behind the leaders, Real Madrid.

Palace are inspired to chase Wimbledon's Cup rainbow

By Louise Taylor

Wimbledon may be out of this season's FA Cup, but their example is still very much on the minds of at least one set of surviving participants. Crystal Palace travel to Cambridge United with a brief to take a further step towards emulating the achievement of their south London neighbours in winning the competition two years ago.

Few managers, publicly at least, compare their players to those at Plough Lane, but Steve Coppell, ever the realist, is an exception. "Clubs like Wimbledon have allowed us to dream, and I feel we are very similar to them in many ways. We have the same collective spirit and ability, and they have shown us what is possible," the Palace manager said.

With both Palace and Cambridge disciples of the long ball, the spirit of Wimbledon will probably also be in evidence at the Abbey Stadium this afternoon. Yet while the capacity crowd of 10,200 will be unlikely to see too much fancy footwork, it should be a close contest.

John Beck, the Cambridge United manager, said: "Palace play in our kind of style, but at a First Division level." Millwall, too, adopt the direct approach, and Cambridge will derive optimism from the way theyoutplayed the Lions at their own game in the fourth round. Doing the same to Palace will earn them the distinction of becoming the first fourth divison team to reach the semi-finals.

The Wimbledon *ethos will* even be in evidence at Bramall Lane, where Sheffield United entertain Manchester United tomorrow. Dave Bassettwas not in charge when Wimbledon beat Liverpool in 1988, but few would dispute that he fashioned the nuclus of that winning team. Now the same route one approach is paying dividends in Sheffield. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said: "Dave Bassett believes in playing a certain way, and every team tends to mirror its manager." If that is really the case, cynics might say that United's recent league teams have reflected an indecision and lack of confidence on Ferguson's part.

Chips on shoulders, and inferiority complexes cannot be said to apply to Kenny Dalglish. The Liverpool manager takes the Cup holders to Queen's Park Rangers tomorrow, anxious to avenge a 3-2 league setback earlier this season. Presumably as part of the process of psyching up his players he produced one of the quotes of the season: "We know how they are going to play, tactically anyway, but I don't know if they know how we are going to play."

Oldham Athletic and Everton are still stuck at the fifth-round stage, with the winners of today's second replay on the Boundary Park plastic awaiting Aston Villa next weekend. The previous two drawn fifth round ties have resulted in nine bookings for Everton, but with Whiteside suspended, one potential miscreant is removed.

In the League, Aston Villa will return to the head of the first division, above Liverpool, if they beat Luton Town at home today. After two successive defeats Graham Taylor, the Villa manager, is expected to move Platt from the midfield into attack.

Considering that Bobby Robson is likely to ask him to assume the injured Bryan Robson's deep role for England against Brazil at the end of this month the timing is not the best. Nevertheless Platt appeared unruffled. "I used to see myself as a centre-forward who could play midfield, so now I am just a midfield player playing upfront," he said.

Algeria go through as riot rages

Algiers (AFP) — Nigeria and Algeria gained places in the last four of the African Nations Cup here amid vastly different circumstances. Nigeria defeated the Ivory Coast 1-0 but Algeria's 2-0 defeat of Egypt was played to a background of a battle outside the stadium involving riot police and angry supporters, who had been locked out.

Water cannon and baton-charges were used to restore order after the three-hour riot.

● Kuwait — Kuwait, already assured of victory in the Gulf Cup, celebrated with a 6-1 victory over United Emirates in the final match here. Mohammed Ibrahim scored four goals.

● Belgrade — Partizan Belgrade are to request special police measures to prevent crowd trouble in the second leg of their European Cup-Winners' Cup quarter-final against Dinamo Bucharest in Titograd. There was heavy fighting between rival supporters during and after the first leg.

● Paris — Hugo Perez, the United States midfield player who broke his right leg and tore ankle ligaments last weekend, will know after tests, in a fortnight's time whether he can play in the World Cup finals. He was injured while playing for his French club, Red Star.

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

FA Cup
Fifth round, second replay

Oldham v Everton
Ritchie, Oldham's leading scorer, is sidelined by a groin strain. Barrett (heel) is doubtful. Watson (head) is doubtful for Everton; Keown stands by. Whiteside is suspended.

Sixth round

Cambridge v C Palace
Philpott (ankle) faces a test for Cambridge. Palace are without Bright (suspended), and expect to also lack Wright, who suffered a training injury on Thursday after recovery from a broken leg.

First division

Aston Villa v Luton
Mountfield (knee) is absent for Villa; Gray is the likely deputy. Luton are without Wilson (groin) and Johnson (throat) but welcome back McDonough and Kennedy.

Chelsea v Norwich
Clarke is fit but with Hall at right back he makes the substitute's bench for Chelsea, Durie is expected to start in attack. Linighan returns to the Norwich defence after injury, but Sherwood and Coney are omitted.

Man City v Arsenal
City field the side which lost at Forest last week. Wilm Clarke omitted, Allen is substitute. Hayes and Marwood return to the Arsenal squad. Groves and Merson are missing (both knee), so Campbell could start in attack.

Nottm Forest v Coventry
Hodge (ankle) is missing for Forest. Livingstone returns to Coventry's attack after injury.

Southampton v Derby
Andrews, Southampton's recent signing, is poised to make his debut in goal if Flowers (ankle) fails a fitness test. Ridleout (leg) is also doubtful and Case is suspended. Ruddock could be recalled to central defence. Lee is included in the squad. Derby are without Wright (suspended), but Blades returns to the heart of the defence after injury.

Tottenham v Charlton
Gascoigne is expected to be fit for Tottenham, for whom Stewart's recall puts pressure on Walsh. Samways, Sedgley, and Thomas are all absent through injury and suspension. Charlton are without MacKenzie (groin). Reid and Gritt return to the squad.

Second division

Oxford v Leeds
Oxford field the side which beat Bournemouth on Tuesday. Leeds introduce Speed to midfield for his first game of the season in place of Batty (suspended).

Watford v Newcastle
Richardson replaces Porter (ankle) for Watford, for whom Gibbs (groin) faces a late fitness test.

Tomorrow

FA Cup (sixth round)
QPR v Liverpool
QPR are expected to recall Falco to the attack after injury. Liverpool choose between Gillespie, fit again, and Hysen, back after suspension, in central defence.

Sheff Utd v Man Utd
Bryson (Achilles tendon) and Morris (back) are doubtful for Sheffield. Manchester are unchanged.

SNOOKER

Rest puts Parrott in right frame of mind

From Steve Acteson
Lyon

Life has not exactly been unkind to John Parrott; last season alone he won more than £300,000 in prize money. Even so, the world No. 2 from Liverpool, knows there is room for improvement in the quality of his snooker life.

Since January 1988, Parrott has appeared in nine major finals and won only one, the European Open, of which he begins his defence here tomorrow against Wayne Jones of Wales in the last 32 stage.

Parrott, aged 27, is not given to making excuses. He readily admitted that his heavy defeat by Steve Davis in last season's world championship final had cost him sleepless nights but the mental scars had healed by the time he met Jimmy White in the climax to the Everest World Matchplay in December.

A nose bleed before the start upset him then and a disintegrating cue tip had a similar effect when he met Stephen Hendry in the Benson and Hedges Masters final. "I have not won enough finals," Parrott says, "but on the other hand I have lost to the two best players in the world, Davis and Hendry, in six of them.

"I went through a patch when I was an amateur when I couldn't win a final but I kept battling away and suddenly something clicked and I won 14 tournaments in one season; if I get one lucky break something similar could happen again.

"I hope nobody gets any silly ideas about me being some sort of pushover — a sort of constantly stuffed Parrott — because I'm as hard as anyone in the game. I'm a very dedicated player.

"After I lost to Steve Duggan in the British Open I took a week off and did all the normal things like going shopping with the wife. But I needed the rest and by the end of the week I couldn't wait to get back to the practice table. I've been there ever since and I'm raring to go."

Bob Chaperon, the French Canadian who caused such an upset by winning the British Open title last weekend, has a stern test tomorrow when he plays Davis for a place in the last 16. Alex Higgins, the beaten British Open finalist, plays today when he rapidly re-acquaints himself with Steve James, whom he beat in the British Open semi-finals.

The tournament was promised a sponsor but the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association has yet to make an announcement and thus will presumably have to bear the costs of the event — which includes a £200,000 prize fund — themselves with their partners in overseas events, Transworld International, Mark McCormack's television company.

IN BRIEF

Lehmann races to 1,000 runs

Adelaide (AFP) — Darren Lehmann yesterday became the youngest player to score 1,000 runs in an Australian first class season. Lehmann, 20 last month, hit his fifth century of the summer for South Australia as he erased a record held by Doug Walters for 24 years.

Lehmann scored exactly 100 on the opening day of the Sheffield Shield match against Queensland.

Caratti into tennis final

Christiano Caratti, from Turin, yesterday reached the finals of the Serve and Volley tennis satellite event at Bramhall. Already the No. 1 seed in the Masters event next week, Caratti will face Mexico's Luis Herrera in today's final. Herrera has only dropped one set so far this week.

Boxer lets title go

Paul Hodkinson, the British and European featherweight champion, has relinquished his domestic title in order to concentrate on his EBU commitments and a challenge for a world title. He meets Steve McCrory, of the United States, in a world title eliminator in Manchester on March 28.

Century Player

Johannesburg (AFP) — Gary Player, one of only four players to win golf's grand slam, has been named South Africa's sportsman of the century.

Snow-hit downhill

Stranda, Norway (Reuter) — A women's World Cup downhill race scheduled for yesterday was postponed because of soft snow on the course.

Sponsors pull out

British tennis will lose one of its sponsors, the Prudential Corporation, at the end of this year, after it decided not to renew its sponsorship agreement.

Indurain moves up

Toulon (AFP) — Miguel Indurain of Spain, last year's winner, took the overall lead in the Paris-Nice cycle race when he won the 164km sixth stage from Marseille to Toulon yesterday. Laurent Fignon, of France, was second, more than 30sec behind, with Eric Boyer, of France, third.

Oxford celebrate

Oxford won the women's university rugby match at Iffley Road yesterday, beating Cambridge 22-0. They play Loughborough University at Southgate tomorrow in the inaugural final of the Women's Rugby Football Union Student Cup.

BOBSLEIGHING

Teams to be penalized for missing events

Calgary (Reuter) — Major changes are being proposed for next season's World Cup bobsleigh circuit after a dismal turnout for this season's final four-man event.

Only eight countries have entered this weekend's final stop on the six-event World Cup schedule, with the powerful teams from East Germany, the Soviet Union, Switzerland, and Austria all deciding to stay in Europe for reasons of cost.

The International Bobsleigh Federation vice-president, Bob Storey, said his governing body would be asked in June to endorse rule changes penalizing athletes who fail to compete in all events.

"Long term, the changes are necessary for the good of the sport," Storey, who also heads the Canadian Bobsleigh Federation, said on Thursday. He said the federation would be asked at its congress in St Vincent, Italy, to change the rules so results from all six events would be accumulated to make up the final World Cup positions.

Athletes now count only their top finishes at five World Cup events to determine the final overall season positions. The full positions would decide seedings at the world championships, damaging the chances of those who missed a World Cup event, Storey said.

The short field with only 16 sleds this weekend has opened the door for Chris Lori to win the overall World Cup title and become the first Canadian ever to do so. Lori is third overall with 94 points, compared with 112 for the leader, Maris Poikans, of the Soviet Union, and 105 for Dietmar Falkenberg, of East Germany.

SNOW REPORTS

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: conditions: snow level, 2200ft; vertical runs, 1300ft. Runs: upper and middle complete, icy with light dusting of snow; lower, mainly broken; nursery, very limited patches; access roads open; chairlifts, car park, Coire na ciste and West Wall, open; tows, all open except for Shelduck, Aonach, Link and Day lodge. Glenshee: snow level, 2400ft; vertical runs, 600ft. Runs: upper Cairnwell and Butchers complete; lower, little or no snow; access roads open; chairlifts, Cairnwell open, Sunnyslope closed; tows, Cairnwell and Butchers Corrie open.

Lecht: snow level, 2200ft; vertical runs, nil. Runs: insufficient snow for skiing; access roads open; tows, closed. Aonach Mor: snow level, 2300ft; vertical runs, 1700ft. Runs, upper complete, hard snow with fresh snow; lower, patches of snow; access roads open; gondola lift open; snowgoose chairlift open; tows open. Glencoe: snow level, 1800ft; vertical runs, 1400ft. Runs: upper, fresh snow on a firm base; lower, fresh snow on a firm base; nursery, ample snow; access roads open; chairlifts open; tows open.

Forecast: most resorts will have a cloudy day; there will be snow at first but during the morning this should turn to rain, first at Glencoe and Aonach Mor, and later at all other resorts; some heavy falls of snow will have occurred overnight and as the temperature rises during the day there will be thawing of the lying snow at nearly all levels. The freezing level will start off around 2500ft in the eastern resorts and nearer 3500ft at Aonach Mor and Glencoe, but during the morning will rise above the summits at all resorts. Rain will continue through the day especially at the western resorts.

Outlook: Colder with sunny intervals and snow showers. On Monday there will be further snow showers at first but cloud will increase later with snow, turning to rain at lower levels.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

BOWLS

Boston pair travel well to take title

By Gordon Allan

Diana Wilson and Jean Cammack, of Boston, won the English women's indoor pairs championship at Luton yesterday when they beat Jane Rowntree and Gloria Thomas, of West Cornwall, the 1988 champions, 22-12. It is the Boston club's second success in this event; they won in 1974 with different players.

Wilson and Cammack commuted every day between Boston and Luton to compete, and every mile was worth it. They were 10-4 adrift early in the game but steadily picked up shots and, once they had moved ahead, stayed there.

Wilson, who won the Champion of Champions event last season, drew more consistently to the jack than Rowntree, and Thomas was left with much retrieving to do. Three counts of three around the halfway mark more or less settled the destination of the title.

Wilson and Cammack also qualified for the triples final. Along with Sheila King they beat Cambridge Chesterton, the *1989 runners-up, 20-6.*

Teesside, the champions for the past two years and skipped by Norma Shaw, were beaten 21-10 by Doris Wickenden, Diana Carpenter and Ann Moore, of Egerton Park, Bexhill.

RESULTS: Pairs: Final: D Wilson, J Cammack (Boston) bt J Rowntree, G Thomas (West Cornwall), 22-12. Triples: Semi-finals: D Wilson, S King, J Cammack (Boston) bt L Jarman, J Gazeley, D Ralph (Cambridge Chesterton), 20-8; D Wickenden, D Carpenter, A Moore (Egerton Park) bt P Spence, J Barry, N Shaw (Teesside), 21-10.

CYCLING

Luckwell makes debut

Ben Luckwell, the top male amateur road rider in Britain last season, makes his professional debut in the UK tomorrow in the 85-mile Jock Wadley memorial race at West Burgholt, Essex (Peter Bryan writes).

The Bristol rider was a member of the England quartet which won the bronze medal in the Commonwealth Games team time trial, but he had to miss the road race, for which he was among the favourites, when he crashed heavily four days before the event.

After Auckland, Luckwell returned to sign a contract with Tony Doyle's Ever Ready/Halfords team and competed in the Het Volk classic in Belgium last weekend.

Twelve professionals are listed for tomorrow's race, including Tony Doyle, but the European track champion will be a non-starter. He is unlikely to be racing until May, following his serious crash in the Munich six-day race last November.

SQUASH RACKETS

Cauldron in Austria

The second round of the Austrian Open Championship in Salzburg began interestingly enough on Thursday afternoon with a progression of seeded players in the usual varying degrees of superiority. By mid-evening, however, the Bergheim Rackets Centre was a seething cauldron that will mark this tournament as one of the more extraordinary of this year's grand prix tour (Colin McQuillan writes).

First, Tristan Nancarrow attracted conduct warnings and penalty points before evicting Ross Norman, the seventh seed and former world champion.

This was followed by a bitter match between Chris Dittmar and Mir Zaman Gul, in which the stresses of Dittmar's scheduling problems, combined with the early determination of the young Pakistani to fuel the resentment of both players against each other.

Finally, Jahangir Kahn's own unusually excited state also became obvious as

FOR THE RECORD

ASIAN WINTER GAMES

SAPPORO, Japan: Women: Speed skating: Women: 500 metres: Wang Xiulan (China), 45.80sec. 1,000 metres: Kim So-hee (S Kor), 2min 40.23sec. 1,500 metres: Wang Chang (China), 46.01sec. 1,500 metres: Kim Ki-hoon (S Kor), 2min 35.84sec.

BASKETBALL

CHAMPION CLUBS CUP: Men: Quarter-finals: Philips Milan (It) 99, Lech Poznan (Pol) 82; Aris Salonika (Greece) 89, Limoges (Fr) 79. Women: Final: Bnlmont Priolo v CSKA Moscow, Cesena, Italy, March 25.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Minnesota Timberwolves 111, Los Angeles Clippers 94; Utah Jazz 98, Chicago Bulls 94; Houston Rockets 111, Seattle SuperSonics 97; Golden State Warriors 145, Cleveland Cavaliers 105; Sacramento Kings 111, Charlotte Hornets 102.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: Tasmania 117 (A Tucker 4-25); New South Wales 120 for 3 (M D O'Neill 51 not out). Adelaide: South Australia 262 (D Lehmann 100, P R Sleep 75 not out; C J McDermott 5-74); Queensland 42-0. Perth: Victoria 277 for 4 (J D Siddons 124, D Harris 48 not out) v Western Australia.

TENNIS

DRAMBUIL: Men's singles tournament: Semi-finals: C Caratti (It) bt C Johnson (US), 6-3, 6-4; L Herrera (Mex) bt D Bothe (SA), 6-4 6-4.

CYCLING

TIRRENO-ADRIATICO RACE: Second stage: 1, T Rominger (Switz), 4hr 35min 10sec; 2, G Dellon (Fr), at 1min 47sec; 3, M Fondriest (It), at 1:48; 4, S Kelly (Ire); 5, L Roosen (Bel); 6, Z Jaskula (Pol); 7, D Steiger (Switz); 8, G Nulens (Bel), all same time; 9, J C Leclercq (Fr), at 2:45. Overall standings: 1, Rominger, 4:26:43; 2, Dellon, at 1min 49sec; 3, Kelly, at 1:54; 4, Fondriest, same time; 5, Jaskula, at 1:55; 6, Steiger; 7, Nulens; 8, Roosen, all same time; 9, F Massen (Neth), at 2:48; 10, A Da Silva (Por), at 2:52.

GOLF

CALCUTTA: Indian Open championship: Leading second-round scores: 143: A Gilligan (Aus), 71, 144: Basant Ali (India), 72; J L Lamerre (Can), 72. 146: S Ginn (Aus), 72; A Debuak (US), 74. 148: Yu Chin-Han (Taiwan), 74; H Johnson (US), 72; Lin Kong-Chi (Taiwan), 69. 147: Hsieh Yu-Shu (Taiwan), 74; S Pesch (US), 76; R Boulchard (Can), 73; S Wagner (US), 73; F Ali (India), 74.
SHINTOMICHO, Japan: Women's tournament: Leading first-round scores: (Japan unless stated): 70: J Bishop (Aus), A Ohsiro. 71: K Ae-sook (S Kor), K Hirade, N Terasawa. 72: Y Kobayashi, R Kashiwado, I Shionari, M Oda, F Tait, H Miyazawa, C Yamazaki, M Inaba, L Young-mi (S Kor), T Kimura.

HANDBALL

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: (In Czechoslovakia): Group 1: France 31, South Korea 24; Czechoslovakia 20, Hungary 20; Romania 20, Sweden 19. Group 2: Soviet Union 37, Spain 25; Yugoslavia 33, Poland 20; Iceland 19, East Germany 17. 13-16 play-offs: Switzerland 22, Algeria 18; Cuba 23, Japan 20.

HOCKEY

MELBOURNE: Women's international series: Australia 6, South Korea 2 (Australia lead 2-0).
NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Sutton Coldfield 0, Clifton 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Buffalo Sabres 10, Boston Bruins 4, Detroit Red Wings 3, St Louis Blues 2; Toronto Maple Leafs 7, Hartford Whalers 6; New York Rangers 7, Philadelphia Flyers 5; New Jersey Devils 4, New York Islanders 2.

ICE SKATING

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia: World championships: Ice dance (after original set pattern): 1, M Klimova and S Ponomarenko (USSR), 1.0pts; 2, I and P Duchesnay (Fr), 2.4; 3, M Usova and A Zhulin (USSR), 2.8; 4, S Wynne and J Druer (US), 4.4; 5, K Engl and A Toth (Hun), 5.2; 6, O Gritschuk and E Platov (USSR), 5.4; 7, S Rahlicsso and P Kokko (Fin), 7.0; 8, J-A Borlace and M Smith (Can), 8.0; 9, A Sargent and R Witherby (US), 9.0; 10, M McDonald and M Mitchell (Can), 10.0. British: 19, L Burton and A Place, 19.4; 21, A Hall and J Blomfield, 21.4 (did not qualify).
Men: Free skating: 1, K Browning (Can), 1.0pts; 2, V Petrenko (USSR), 2.0; 3, C Bowman (US), 3.0; 4, G Filipowski (Pol), 4.0; 5, P Barna (Cz), 5.0; 6, E Sojko (Can), 6.0; 7, T Eldredge (US), 7.0; 8, P Wylie (US), 8.0; 9, V Zagorodniuk (USSR), 9.0; 10, R Zander (WG), 10.0; 11, M Slipchuk (Can), 11.0; 12, C Medhurst (Aus), 12.0; 13, S Cousins (GB), 13.0; 14, Sung E Jung (S Kor), 14.0; 15, P Candeloro (Fr), 15.0; 16, A Riccioli (It), 16.0; 17, O Hoener (Switz), 17.0; 18, A Szarasz (Hun), 18.0; 19, R Burghart (Austria), 19.0; 20, O Jaaskelainen (Fin), 20.0.
Final placings: 1, Browning, 3.0; 2, Petrenko, 3.8; 3, Bowman, 7.0; 4, Filipowski, 8.2; 5, Eldredge, 11.8; 6, Barna, 12.4; 7, Zander, 14.6; 8, Zagorodniuk, 16.0; 9, Sojko, 17.2; 10, Wylie, 19.6; 11, Slipchuk, 22.6; 12, Medhurst, 23.4; 13, Hoener, 28.4; 14, Candeloro, 29.8; 15, Jung, 30.2; 16, Riccioli, 31.4; 17, Szarasz, 31.4; 18, Cousins, 33.8; 19, Burghart, 34.8; 20, Jaaskelainen, 38.4.

NORDIC SKIING

OMMEKOLDSVIK, Sweden: Men's World Cup: 70m ski jumping: 1, F B Lundberg (Nor), 213.3pts; 2, K Ofner (Austria), 211.8; 3, K Sulzenbacher (Austria), 210.5.

RACKETS

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Eton (A Smith-Bingham and J Larken) bt Malvern (W Robinson and J Horton), 15-7, 15-4, 15-1, 15-9; Jesters (T Cockroft and G Doveroux) bt Eton (A Smith-Bingham and J Larken), 15-6, 7-15, 15-8, 15-12, 11-15, 12-15, 15-11.

RUGBY LEAGUE

BLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: Rylands York 24, Sheffield Eagles 8.

RUGBY UNION

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 20, Cambridge 0.

GOLF: 'CONSERVATIVE' SWEDE TAKES ONLY 29 PUTTS AND PUTS PRESSURE ON AMBITIOUS BALLESTEROS AND DAVIS

Cool Persson uses shortest route to open up a gap

From Mel Webb
Majorca

A Spaniard who wants to win everything, an Australian who would like to win something in particular and a Swede who would like to win anything at all leapt to the top of the leader board in the second round of the Majorca Open here yesterday.

The Spaniard is Severiano Ballesteros, who has already said that the venues for the four major championships this year suit him down to the ground, so he gives himself every chance of winning them all. Few would risk much betting against him.

He could be the man to beat here, too. He has not been feeling too well this week; snuffles and a temperature of 101 drove him to his bed after his first round on Thursday.

But if his body was aching and racked with pain, it did not show in his golf, which was in fine shape, almost like something he had packed in his suitcase and plugged in on the first tee.

He went to the turn in 31, with birdies at the 4th, 5th and 6th and 9th, and kept up the pace on the inward nine, saving more shots on the 10th, 11th and 14th. If he wins tomorrow, everybody will want a nasty head cold.

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	[illegible]	4	10	299	4
2	387	4	11	540	5
3	404	4	12	155	3
4	154	3	13	555	5
5	403	4	14	315	4
6	500	5	15	355	4
7	336	4	16	146	3
8	146	3	17	410	4
9	341	4	18	509	5
Out	2,960	35	In	3,284	37

Total yardage: 6,244 Par: 72

The Australian element of the troika, Rodger Davis, does not set his sights as high as Ballesteros — quite. But he still believes he could top the Volvo Order of Merit this year, and also win the Open at St Andrews. Like Ballesteros, he loves the course.

So he has come to Europe earlier than usual, and says he will be truly match fit by the time the Cannes Open comes round in April. His 64 took him to 10 under par; it must be nice to be as rusty as that.

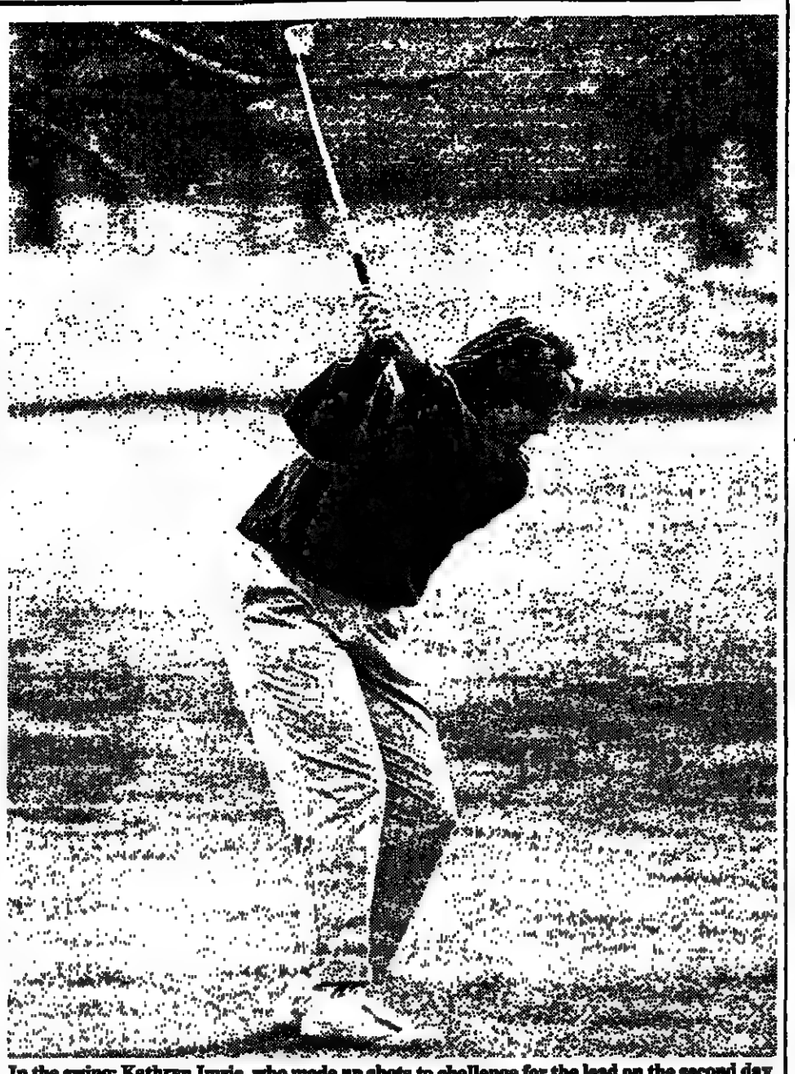
At the moment, however, the man they all have to worry about is Magnus Persson, of Sweden. Persson, who belies his 5ft 7in and a slightness of frame with the ability to hit the ball a long way, has been working on his fitness at his home in Marbella throughout the winter — weights for the body, and self-examination for the mental processes.

He says that in the past he has tended to rush things, to get too aggressive and generally lose his head, and because of it he is still waiting for his first tournament victory.

Well, there was nothing much wrong with the way he thought his way round Son Vida in the course of his second 65 of the tournament. He did not drop a shot all day, the result, he said, of a determination to play "conservative" golf.

Starting from the 10th, he hit 17 greens in regulation, took only 29 putts, and had two bursts of birdies, from the 13th to the 16th and, on his inward nine, from the 3rd to the 5th. If this was conservative, heaven only knows what will happen when he starts attacking.

LEADING EARLY SECOND-ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland unless stated): 130: M Persson (Swe), 65, 65. 132: J Quiros (Sp), 68, 64; 134: J Parnevik (Swe), 66, 68; R Davis (Aus), 70, 64. 135: A Saavedra (Arg), 67, 68; W Malley (US), 63, 72. 136: B Langer (WG), 66, 70; M Clayton (Aus), 68, 68. 137: J-M Cañizares (Sp), 70, 67; J Rivero (Sp), 69, 68; J Haeggman (Swe), 69, 68. 138: : G J Brand, 68, 70; S Hamill, 68, 70; J Rystrom (Swe), 70, 68. 139: M Sunesson (Swe), 69, 70; V Fernandez (Arg), 67, 72; R McFarlane, 73, 66; J Carriles (Sp), 71, 68; M Mouland, 68, 71; M Jonsson (Swe), 69, 70. 140: J Rozadilla (Sp), 74, 66; M Jiminez (Sp), 72, 68; P Carrigill, 72, 68. 141: A Piñero (Sp), 69, 72; A Charnley, 75, 66; C [illegible]* (Sp) 70, 71; J Anglada (Sp), 71, 70; B Hughes (Aus), 68, 73. 142: F Roca (Sp), 72, 70; R Boxall, 70, 72; M Calero (Sp), 72, 70; P Walton, 72, 70; R Commans (US), 74, 68; J Rutledge (Can), K Waters, 72, 70. 143: G J Turner (NZ), 74, 69; W Stephens, 71, 72; M McLean, 71, 72; G Ralph, 72, 71; B Marchbank, 73, 70.
* denotes amateur.



In the swing: Kathryn Imrie, who made up shots to challenge for the lead on the second day

New putter helps Lyle stay in touch

From John Ballantine, Coral Springs, Florida

John Huston, a 28-year-old Florida professional, led with a 68 in the first round of the $1 million Honda Classic on the 7,037 yard "players course" here at Eagle Trace.

Mark Calcavecchia, the Open champion, was in second place on 70 while a quartet of Gil Morgan, Mark Brooks, Joel Edwards and Tim Simpson were on 71.

Sandy Lyle scored a 74 that may not sound very good but was a useful card given that the wind was blowing in gusts of up to 40mph. Lyle, who failed to qualify in Miami last week, was out very early in slightly calmer conditions in yesterday's second round. He has foresaken the curious looking long shafted putter for a normal Ping.

"Because I was standing straighter with the taller putter I was able to see the lines better and that has helped me", the Scot said.

Huston, a slim local pro who wears a moustache, was ordered by the US Golf Association to change his shoes before his round. They were declared illegal because of a wide sole. "I don't know how you can make shoes that are illegal" Huston said after scoring seven birdies and three bogeys. "Maybe that's been holding me back all season" he joked.

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES: 68: J Huston. 70: M Calcavecchia. 71: G Morgan, M Brooks, J Edwards, T Simpson. 72: W Wood, B Estes, F Couples, B Gilder, B Brown, J C Snead, G Waite. Others: 74: A Lyle (GB).

A slender lead for Gilligan

Calcutta (AFP) — Anthony Gilligan, of Australia, took a one-stroke lead at the end of the second round of the Indian Open championships yesterday with a two-under-par round of 71. He set out in style, picking up four strokes in the first nine holes, and while his second half was more erratic, it was good enough to see him replace the overnight leader, Gary Webb.

● Toshiaki Sudo achieved a hole in one at the par-three 5th to record a four-under-par 68 in the second round of the Imperial Tournament in Sakuragawamura, Japan.

Imrie shaping up for Cup honours

By Patricia Davies

On a chilly, breezy afternoon yesterday, the Roehampton Gold Cup seemed to be resolving itself into a tussle between Carole Caldwell, the hardened campaigner from Sunningdale, and Kathryn Imrie, a Scot hopeful of Curtis Cup honours this summer.

At the halfway stage of the afternoon round, Imrie, who started at the 10th, was three over par, one shot ahead of Caldwell, who had played the first nine in 40. "Frittering" was how Caldwell, who has shared this title three times, described her outward half and she was a little daunted, if not haunted, by the memory of missing two short putts.

At this time of year, however, few people are able to approach supposed tiddlers with confidence, for even greens in good condition, as Roehampton's seemed to be, tend to be a mite bumpy.

Imrie, out in 37, one over par, in her second round, had thus made up three shots to take the lead after returning a 75 in the morning to Caldwell's 74, one over par.

The Scot, who has abandoned the cropped peroxide hairstyle that she favoured while a practising Wildcat at the University of Arizona (students at the rival establishment of Arizona State were known as Sun Devils rather than Wildcats), has been working on making her swing less 'floppy' than it had become in the States and her golf in the morning was steady rather than spectacular, despite being one under par after one hole.

She hopes to have her game in sound shape by the summer to give herself a chance of making the Curtis Cup team and today, she will be setting off for Portugal for a week's training with a squad that has not been called a Curtis Cup squad, even though that is essentially what it is and no one can forget that the match against the Americans in New Jersey is the highlight of this amateur year.

It was Caldwell, a former Curtis Cup player, who produced the spectacular stuff early on, being three under par after eight holes before having trouble with the trees at the 18th, her ninth, and taking a double bogey six. She had two more birdies but also four bogeys, the sort of uneven performance typical of early season events.

LEADING FIRST-ROUND SCORES: 74: C Caldwell (Sunningdale). 75: K Imrie (Monifieth Ladies), A Johns (Boston). 77: S Moon (unattached). 78: H Wadsworth (Salford University). 79: C Lambert (Stirling University), S Keogh (Wyke Green), C Watson (Beaconsfield), D Barnard (North Shore), C White (Vicar's Cross).

HOCKEY

Southgate eager to avoid going the way of Hounslow

By Sydney Friskin

Of the quarter-final matches in the Nationwide Anglia Cup to be played tomorrow, none has aroused more interest than the game between Southgate and Stourport, mainly because Stourport claimed the scalp of Hounslow, last year's winners, in the previous round.

Southgate, anxious to recover the trophy they last won in 1988, will have to keep a close watch on Imran Sherwani, always a danger for Stourport on their left wing. Knott, in the middle, and Carlisle make up Stourport's three front runners.

Bill Waugh, who strikes the corners so well, will not be in the Southgate squad this weekend as he is training with the England schoolboy squad. There is grave doubt about the availability of Batchelor, but, with Kerly at centre forward, Soma Singh at centre half and Duthie proping up the defence, Southgate have reliable key players.

Castenskiold, who was unavailable last week, is back in the squad, as is Kerry.

Ian McGinn, formerly of Southgate and England, has taken over the coaching of Old Loughtonians, who are at home to East Grinstead at Chigwell, where some of England's World Cup players will be in action. They are Halls and Nick Thompson for Old Loughtonians; Richard Leman and Clift for East Grinstead.

Havant and Isca, both beaten in the semi-finals last season, are meeting at Havant College where the home side will be at full strength, having called on their four World Cup players, Faulkner, Garcia, Hill, and Rowlands. Two able and willing hands, Don Williams and Nail will be in co-support.

Isca, however, inspired by their captain, Graham Skinner, are expected to put up a hard fight.

Harleston Magpies, the only non-league side in the competition, are hoping to continue their flight of fantasy when they meet Reading at Dereham in what promises to be an exciting tussle. Reading, who have scored 14 goals so far, are hoping that Osborn will be on target again.

Havant and Isca may become bored with each other's company as they are also due to meet today at the same venue in the Poundstretcher National League, which likewise offers interesting fare.

Southgate entertain Indian Gymkhana at White Hart Lane and Hounslow, the leaders, take on Slough at Feltham.

Jason Barrow, Indian Gymkhana's goalkeeper who kept his side in the game for all but 10 minutes against Hounslow last Sunday with some great saves before conceding two goals from set pieces, will be under more pressure today from Kerly and his colleagues.

Slough, who drew 2-2 with Havant last week, are in a make or break situation against Hounslow, who are five points ahead of them with a game in hand.

GB honing plan for Olympics

In a little more than two years, Great Britain will defend the Olympic title in Barcelona and preparation begins with their participation in the seven nations' tournament for the BMW Trophy in Amsterdam from June 16 to 24 (Sydney Friskin writes).

The entries for the BMW Trophy include the three teams which have qualified automatically for the Olympic Games: Great Britain as title holders, The Netherlands, World Cup winners, and Spain, the host country.

BMW MATCH PROGRAMME: June 16: Pakistan v Spain; Netherlands v India. 17: West Germany v Spain; Great Britain v India; Netherlands v Australia. 18: Great Britain v Australia; West Germany v Pakistan. 19: India v Pakistan; Netherlands v Spain. 20: Australia v Spain; Great Britain v West Germany. 21: Australia v Pakistan; Netherlands v Great Britain; India v West Germany. 22: India v Spain; Netherlands v Pakistan. 23: West Germany v Australia; Great Britain v Spain. 24: India v Australia; Great Britain v Pakistan; Netherlands v West Germany.

Relegation worries for Clifton

With Slough having assured themselves of the inaugural Typhoo national women's league championship with a convincing 5-1 victory over Orpington this week, the interest today switches to the other end of the table and Clifton's efforts to move clear of trouble.

A fine 3-0 victory over Sutton Coldfield on Thursday revived Clifton's hopes of avoiding the three relegation play-off places at the end of the season.

However, for today's match against Ealing, they will be without Tammy Miller, their England international, who will be with Sue Slocombe, her teammate and the England coach, on a World Cup training session this weekend.

Exmouth, already doomed to the play-offs, meet Chelmsford in today's other match.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

FA Cup
Fifth round
Second replay
Oldham v Everton

Sixth round
Cambridge v C Palace

Barclays League
First division
Aston Villa v Luton
Chelsea v Norwich
Manchester C v Arsenal
Nottm Forest v Coventry
Southampton v Derby Co
Tottenham v Charlton

GM Vauxhall Conference
Altrincham v Welling
Barnet v Kidderminster
Barrow v Fisher Ath
Boston v Telford
Cheltenham v Macclesfield
Chorley v Farnboro
Darlington v Yeovil
Merthyr v Sutton
Stafford R v Kettering
Wycombe v Enfield

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor City v Bishop Auckland; Caernarfon v Buxton; Frickley v Horwich; Gainsborough v Fleetwood; Gateshead v Marine; Matlock v Stalybridge; Morecambe v Goole; Mossley v Southport; Shepshed v Rhyl. First division: Accrington Stanley v Emley; Droylsden v Eastwood Town; Eastwood Hanley v Workington; Farsley v Leek; Harrogate v Curzon Ashton; Netherfield v Rossendale; Newtown v Lancaster; Penrith v Congleton; Radcliffe v Alfreton; Whitley Bay v Irlam.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Portsmouth; Cambridge v Leyton Orient; Chelsea v Queen's Park Rangers; Tottenham v Norwich; Fulham v Ipswich; Millwall v Charlton; Southend v Watford; West Ham v Gillingham. Second division: Aldershot v Bristol City; Colchester v Luton; Northampton v Brighton and Hove; Oxford v Tottenham; Reading v Crystal Palace; Southampton v Brentford; Swindon v Bristol Rovers; Wimbledon v Bournemouth.

Second division
Blackburn v West Bromwich
Bradford v Stoke
Hull v Middlesbro
Ipswich v Brighton
Oxford v Leeds Utd
Plymouth v Swindon
Port Vale v Bournemouth
Sunderland v Leicester
Watford v Newcastle
West Ham v Portsmouth
Wolves v Barnsley

Vauxhall League
Premier division
Barking v Carshalton
B Stortford v Wokingham
Bromley v Windsor and E
Grays v Kingstonian
Hayes v Dagenham
Marlow v Leyton W
Redbridge F v Basingstoke
St Albans v Bognor
Staines v Hendon

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: First division: Chalfont St Peter v Wembley; Croydon v Whyteleafe; Dorking v Woking; Kingsbury v Chesham; Leatherhead v Harlow; Lewes v Hitchin; Purfleet v Walton and Hersham; Southwick v Boreham Wood; Tooting and Mitcham v Worthing; Uxbridge v Metropolitan Police; Wivenhoe v Hampton. Second division north: Aveley v Vauxhall Motors; Barton v Tilbury; Basildon v Rainham; Berkhamsted v Witham; Clapton v Collier Row; Heybridge v Hertford; Hornchurch v Finchley; Letchworth GC v Saffron Walden; Stevenage v Royston; Tring v Billericay; Ware v Hemel Hempstead. Second division south: Abingdon v Yeading; Banstead v Molesey; Bracknell v Newbury; Camberley v Epsom and Ewell; Egham v Petersfield; Horsham v Feltham; Hungerford v Harefield; Malden Vale v Maidenhead United; Southall v Flackwell Heath.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chard v Clevedon; Mangotsfield v Exmouth; Paulton v Liskeard; Swanage and H v Weston-super-Mare; Torrington v Frome.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough v Clitheroe; Chadderton v Knowsley; Darwen v Ashton; Leyland Motors v Bootle; Prescot Cables v Nantwich; Salford v Warrington.

Third division
Blackpool v Preston
Bolton v Notts Co
Brentford v Crewe
Huddersfld v Fulham
Northampton v Cardiff
Rotherham v Bury
Shrewsbury v Bristol C
Swansea v Mansfield
Walsall v Birmingham

Fourth division
Aldershot v Doncaster
Chesterfield v Hereford
Grimsby v Exeter
Halifax v Scarborough
Hartlepool v Rochdale
Maidstone v Colchester
Torquay v Scunthorpe
York v Burnley

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Malvernians v Old Foresters; Old Salopians v Old Etonians. First division: Old Ardinians v Old Haileyburians; Old Bradfieldians v Old Westminsters; Lancing Old Boys v Old Wykehamists.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare v Hatfield Main; Bridlington Trinity v Belper; Hallam v Pontefract Colls; Harrogate RW v North Ferriby; Grimethorpe MW v Brigg; North Shields v Denaby; Ossett Albion v Guiseley; Sutton v Sheffield; Thackley v Bridlington Town.

ABACUS LEAGUE: National division: Aberystwyth v Bridgend; Ebbw Vale v Ton Pentre; Cwmbran v Briton Ferry; Haverfordwest v Brecon; Llanelli v AFC Cardiff; Port Talbot v Maesteg; Abergavenny v Pembroke.

SKOL NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Alnwick v Easington; Billingham Syn v Blyth Spartans; Brandon v Durham; Ferryhill v Tow Law; Newcastle Blue Star v Seaham Red Star; Shildon v Stockton; Spennymoor v Gretna (3.15); Whickham v Guisborough; Whitby v Billingham Town.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Kingston v Leicester; Manchester v Derby; Solent v Sunderland.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division (men): Bury v Gateshead; Cheshire v Oldham (7.30); Corby v Worthing (7.30); Stevenage v Crystal Palace; Plymouth v Birmingham (7.30). Second division (men): Greenwich v Kirklees (7.0); Manchester v Birmingham (5.45); North London v Doncaster. First division (women): Ipswich v Nottingham (4.0); Leicester v Crystal Palace; Stockport v Northampton.

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: East Grinstead v Teddington (Farlington School, Horsham 2.15); Harborne v Wakefield (Hadley Stadium, Birmingham 12.45); Havant v Isca (Havant College 2.15); Hounslow v Slough (Feltham School 2.0); Old Loughtonians v Reading (Chigwell 2.30); Southgate v Indian Gymkhana (New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane 2.0); Stourport v Bromley (Grange Road, Solihull 12.15); Welton v Cannock (Grove Sports Centre, Newark 11.30). Second division: Bournville v Warrington (Shenley Court, Birmingham 2.0); Broxbourne v Canterbury (John Newman Sports Centre, Stevenage 2.0); Guildford v St Albans (Cranleigh School 12.0); Lyons v Brean (Dairy Meadow, Southall 2.30); Peterborough Town v Cambridge City (St Ivo SC, Cambridgeshire 12.30); Richmond v Gorescourt (Teddington School, Broom Road 2.0); Taunton Vale v Coventry and North Warwickshire (Taunton School, 12.0).

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Blackheath v Dulwich; Hawks v Cheam; Old Kingstonians v Cambridge Univ; Purley v London Univ; Surbiton v Tulse Hill; Wimbledon v Beckenham.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishops Stortford v Colchester; Bluharts v Ipswich; Cambs Nomads v West Herts; Chelmsford v Ford; Crostyx v Bedford; Harleston Magpies v Westcliff; Norwich G'hoppers v Bedfordshire Eagles; Pelicans v Bury St Edmunds.

ERNST AND YOUNG HOCKEY LEAGUE: Premier division: Barford v Leicester Westleigh, Bloxwich v Kidderminster; Derby v Belper; South Nottingham v Olton and West Warwick. First division: Aldridge v Worcester Norton; Chesterfield v Pickwick; John Player v Nuneaton; Northampton Saints v Nottingham. North Stafford v Beeston; Redditch v Khalsa; Stone v Edgbaston; Wombourne v Kings Heath.

TYPHOO WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chelmsford v Exmouth (Chelmer Park, Chelmsford, 11.15am); Clifton v Ealing (Marlborough College, 10.30am).

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division
Celtic v Hearts
Dundee v Dunfermline
Hibernian v Aberdeen
Motherwell v Dundee Utd
St Mirren v Rangers

First division
Albion R v St Johnstone
Alloa v Falkirk
Ayr v Clyde
Clydebank v Meadowbank
Forfar v Airdrie
Partick v Hamilton
Raith R v Morton

Second division
Berwick v E Fife
Cowdenbeath v Stirling A
Dumbarton v Arbroath
E Stirling v Stranraer
Kilmarnock v Queens Park
Montrose v Stenhousmuir
Queen of Sth v Brechin

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Dartford; Bath v Burton; Cambridge City v Moor Green; Gravesend; Corby v Wealdstone; Crawley v Alvechurch; Gloucester v Dover; Waterlooville v Bromsgrove; Weymouth v Gosport; Worcester v VS Rugby. Midland division: Banbury v Hednesford; Barry v Stroud; Bedworth v Halesowen; Bilston v Sandwell; Dudley v Rushden; Grantham v Redditch; Nuneaton v Willenhall; Racing Club Warwick v Spalding; Stourbridge v King's Lynn; Sutton Coldfield v Bridgnorth; Tamworth v Leicester. Southern division: Buckingham v Sheppey; Burnham v Hythe; Corinthian v Salisbury; Dunstable v Margate; Folkestone v Andover; Hounslow v Baldock; Poole v Fareham; Trowbridge v Canterbury; Yate v Erith and Belvedere.

INTER-LEAGUE CLUBCALL CUP: Fourth round: Colne Dynamo v Ashford; Hyde v Harrow.

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-finals: Banbridge v Coleraine; Larne v Linfield; Newry v Glentoran; Portadown v Bangor.

LACROSSE

BRINE SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Upper conference: Bath v London; Hampstead v Beckenham; Hechan v Kenton. Lower conference: Chipstead v Brighton; Croydon v Hillcroft; Southampton v Buckhurst Hill.

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Cheadle v Mellor; Old Waconians v Old Stopfordians; Stockport v Rochdale; Timperley v Sheffield Steelers. Second division: Heaton Mersey Guild v Ashton; Sale v Sheffield Univ; Stockport A v Mellor A; Urmston v Cheadle A.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL FINALS (Crystal Palace). U16 Girls: AD Nottingham School v Purbrook Park (Portsmouth (11.0). U16 Boys: Sneyd HS (Newcastle-U-Lyme) v Lycee Francais (London) (1.0). Junior women: Hilton Leeds v Manchester United (3.0). Junior men: Purbrook Park (Portsmouth) v MGI Wessex (Poole) (5.0).

HANDBALL

BRITISH CUP: Semi-final: (women): Manchester United SSS v Arcton (at Eccles Recreation Centre, 6.0). Midlands 'B' League: Classification round: (men): (at Granby Halls, Leicester, 11.0).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Solihull v Peterborough (7.0); Nottingham v Whitley (6.30). First division: Slough v Streatham (5.45); Telford v Humberside (7.0); Trafford v Lee Valley (5.30).

ENGLISH LEAGUE: Play-offs: Basingstoke v Bracknell (6.0).

CAPITAL FOODS SCOTTISH CUP: Semi-finals: (at Murrayfield): Fife v Murrayfield (2.0); Cardiff v Ayr (6.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: National Indoor Championships (RAF Cosford).
BOWLS: Men's English Indoor National Championship (Melton); Women's National Indoor Finals (Luton).
CANOEING: Division A Wild Water Championship Race (Grandtully, Tayside).
FENCING: National Team Sabre Championships (De Beaumont Centre, West Kensington).
GYMNASTICS: National Championships women: individual and apparatus (Crawley).
SWIMMING: Applause Young Variety Junior Swimming Championship (Darlington).
WRESTLING: English Senior Championship (Salford).

RUGBY UNION

3.0 unless stated

Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Bedford v Wasps
Bristol v Leicester
Gloucester v Harlequins
Nottingham v Bath
Orrell v Moseley
Rosslyn Pk v Saracens (2.45)

Second division
Gosforth v Sale
Liverpool St H v Blackheath
Northampton v Coventry
Plymouth v Headingley
Rugby v L Irish
Waterloo v Richmond

Third division
Askeans v Nuneaton
Exeter v L Welsh
Fylde v Lydney
Roundhay v L Scottish
Sheffield v Wakefield
Vale of Lune v W Hartlepool

Area League North
Broughton Pk v Stoke
Durham v Preston G
Kendal v Winnington P (2.45)
Lichfield v Northern (2.45)
Morley v Walsall

Area League South
Basingstoke v Met Police (2.45)
Camborne v Redruth
Cheltenham v Southend
Clifton v Salisbury
Havant v Maidstone

Club matches
Aberavon v Bridgend
Abertillery v Sth Wales Pol
Cambridge U v Kyoto U (Japan)
Cardiff v Pontypool
Glamorgan W v Tredegar
Maesteg v Neath
Newbridge v Pontypridd
Newport v Llanelli
Penarth v Sth Glamorgan Ins
Swansea v Ebbw Vale
Army v Royal Navy (at Twickenham)

McEwan's Scottish League
First division
Edinburgh Ac v Glasgow High
Gala v Heriot's FP
Kelso v Boroughmuir
Melrose v Jed-Forest
Selkirk v Stirling Co
Stewarts Mel FP v Hawick
W of Scotland v Ayr

SCOTLAND: McEwans National League: First division: Edinburgh Academicals v Glasgow High-Kelvinside; Gala v Heriot's FP; Kelso v Boroughmuir; Melrose v Jed-Forest; Selkirk v Stirling County; Stewarts-Melville FP v Hawick; West of Scotland v Ayr. Second division: Currie v Gordonians; Dunfermline v Corstorphine; Glasgow Academicals v Kirkcaldy; Kilmarnock v Edinburgh Wanderers; Langholm v Dalziel HSFP; Preston Lodge SP v Musselburgh; Watsonians v Hillhead-Jordan Hill. Third division: Biggar v Portobello FP; Haddington v Clarkston; Howe of Fife v East Kilbride; Morgan Academy FP v Aberdeen GSFP; Royal High v Grangemouth; Trinity Academicals v Dundee HSFP; Wigtownshire v Highlands. Fourth division: Alloa v Dumfries; Cambuslang v Paisley; Edinburgh University v Linlithgow; Greenock Wanderers v Cartha Queens Park; Peebles v Hutchison; Perthshire v Penicuik; St Boswell v Leith Academicals. Fifth division: Aberdeenshire v Aberdeen University; Ardrossan Academicals v Lismore; Broughton FP v Moray; Dunbar v Madras College FP; Livingston v Lenzie; Murrayfield v Hillfoots; Waysiders v Glenrothes. Sixth division: Clydebank v Walkerburn; Drumpellier v Harris Academy FP; Earlston v Marr; Old Aloysians v Montrose; Panmure v Carnoustie FP; St Andrews University v Cumbernauld; Stewartry v North Berwick. Seventh division: [illegible] v Ross High; Falkirk V Cumnock; Forrester FP v Dalkeith; Garioch v Irvine; Rosyth and District v Strathmore; Stobswell FP v Garnock; Lasswade v Duns. Edinburgh and District League: Morayhouse FP v Royal Dick Vet College; Turnhouse v Liberton FP; Holy Cross v Ferranti; West Linton v Heriot Watt University; Lanark v Edinburgh Northern. Midlands District League: Dalgety Bay v Cowdenbeath; Aberdeen Wanderers-Academicals v Kinross; Dundee University v Granite City; Ross Sutherland v Blairgowrie HSFP; Banff v Mackie Academy FP; Waid Academy FP v Dyce; RAF Kinloss v Stirling University.

Hart Border District League: Hawick Trades v Kelso II; Jed-Forest v Melrose II; Annan v Hawick Harlequins; Gala YM v Hawick Linden; Selkirk II v Hawick YM; Langholm II v Gala Star; Gala Forest v Berwick. Digital Youth League [illegible] Gala Wanderers v Berwick Colts; Jed Thistle v Hawick PSA; Langholm Colts v Hawick Wanderers; Melrose Colts v Kelso Harlequins; Annan Colts v Selkirk YC.

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Courage Clubs Championship: London: First division: North Walsham v US Portsmouth; Old Gaytonians v Lewes; Ruislip v Old Alleynians; Sutton and Epsom v Cheshunt; Streatham and Croydon v Sidcup. Second division north: Eton Manor v OMT; Finchley v Old Albanians; Norwich v Bishop's Stortford; Thurrock v Barking; Woodford v Grasshoppers. Second division south: Dartfordians v Camberley; Guilford and Godalming v Old Colfeians; Old Brockleians v Alton; Old Midwhitgiftians v Worthing; Tunbridge Wells v Esher. Third division north west: Bacavians v Hertford; Fullerians v Kingsburians; Mill Hill v Twickenham; St Mary's Hosp v Hemel Hempstead; Tabard v Welwyn. Third division north east: Brentwood v Colchester; Chingford v Harlow; Romford and GP v West Norfolk; Saffron Walden v Old Cantabrigians; Westcliff v Cambridge. Third division south east: Beckenham v East Grinstead; Bognor v Horsham; Gillingham Anchorians v Crawley; Hove v Old Beccehamians; Westcombe Pk v Old Juddian. Third division south west: Old Emanuel v Old Reigatian; Old Guildfordians v Southampton; Old Walcountians v KCS Old Boys; Old Whitgiftians v Purley; Portsmouth v Dorking. Middlesex: First division: Hampstead v Uxbridge; Hendon v Old Meadonians; Lensbury v Sudbury Ct; London New Zealand v Staines; Old Millhillians v Centaurs. Eastern Counties: First division: Braintree v Redbridge; Bury St Edmunds v Basildon; Crusaders v Ely; Rochford v Old Edwardians; Shelford v Canvey Island. Kent: First division: Betteshanger v Thanet Wanderers; Bromley v Old Dunstonians; Canterbury v Sevenoaks; Dover v Erith; Snowdown Colliery v Medway. Sussex: First division: Brighton v Seaford; Burgess Hill v Heathfield; Chichester v St Francis; Crowborough v Sussex Police; Eastbourne v Haywards Heath. Hampshire: First division: Esso v Eastleigh; Fareham Heathens v Andover; Jersey v Gosport; Millbrook v Petersfield; Sandown and Shanklin v Winchester.

WEST: Courage Clubs Championship: South West: First division: Berry Hill v Stroud; Brixham v Taunton; High Wycombe v Reading; Maidenhead v Oxford; Matson v St Ives. Second division: Abbey v Newbury; Banbury v Torquay; Barnstaple v Gordon League; Bournemouth v Henley; Cinderford v Bridgwater. Western Counties: Avonmouth Old Boys v Tiverton; Cirencester v Launceston; Clevedon v Penryn; Culverhaysians v Okehampton; Devon and Cornwall Police v Newquay Hornets. Southern Counties: Aylesbury v Wimborne; Bletchley v Swanage and Wareham; Bracknell v Swindon; Marlow v Chiltern; Slough v Oxford Old Boys. Cornwall and Devon League: Bideford v Sidmouth; Crediton v Wadebridge Camels; Devonport Services v Illogan Park; Exeter Saracens v Penzance-Newlyn; Falmouth v Plymouth CS. Cornwall: First division: Bodmin v Veor; Bude v Saltash; Hayle v St Just; Helston v St Austell; Liskeard Looe v Redruth Albany. Devon: First division: Cullompton v South Molton; Exmouth v Topsham; Ivybridge v Plymouth Argaum; Paignton v Newton Abbot; Prince Rock v Old Technicians. Gloucestershire-Somerset League: Avon and Somerset Police v Old Redcliffians; Cleve v Spartans; Combe Down v Frome; Coney Hill v Midsomer Norton; Drybrook v Keynsham. Gloucestershire: First division: Bream v Tredworth; Cheltenham North v Longlevens; Dings Crusaders v Gloucester Old Boys; North Bristol v St Marys Old Boys; Saintbridge FP v Old Patesians. Somerset: First division: Avondale v Yeovil; Bristol Harlequins v Walcot; Gordano v Old Sulians; Hornets v St Bernadettes; Minehead v Oldfield. Buckinghamshire-Oxfordshire: Beaconsfield v Oxford Marathon; Bicester v Olney; Chinnor v Milton Keynes; Cholsey v Littlemoor; Drifters v Grove. Berkshire-Dorset-Wiltshire: Aldermaston v Weymouth; Devizes v Corsham; Dorchester v Sherborne; North Dorset v REME Arborfield; Puddletown v Chippenham.

NORTH: First division: Hartlepool Rovers v Aspatria; Hull Ionians v Otley; Middlesbrough v Harrogate; Tynedale v Birkenhead Park; Wigton v Bradford and Bingley. Second division: Alnwick v Carlisle; Lymm v Wigan; Rotherham v New Brighton; Sandal v Wharfedale; Widnes v West Park. North East: First division: Blaydon v Keighley; Gateshead Fell v Selby; Morpeth v Old Brodleians; Stockton v Old Crossleyans; York v Novocastrians. Second division: Beverley v Ryton; Newcastle University v Blyth; Ripon v Old Hymerians; Rockcliff v Bramley; Roundhegians v Pontefract. North West: First division: Chester v Wirral; Davenport v Mid-Cheshire Colleges; Egremont v Rochdale; Macclesfield v Sedgley Park; Sandbach v Cockermouth. Second division: Penrith v Wilmslow; Manchester v Warrington; Moresby v Old Aldwinians; Netherhall v Blackburn; Workington v Mersey Police. Club matches: Bowdon v Wilmslow XV; Caldy v Southport; Castle College v Chesterfield XV; Danum Phoenix v Thornensians XV; Huddersfield v Halifax; Huddersfield YMCA v Wheatley Hills; Manchester YMCA v Thornton Cleveleys; West Leeds v Tyldesley; Whitby v North Shields.

MIDLANDS: Courage League: First division: Barkers Butts v Mansfield; Bham and Solihull v Paviors; Derby v Westleigh; Leighton Buzzard v Newark; Stockwood Park v Hereford. Second division east: Kettering v Towcestrians; Lincoln v Syston; Moderns v Peterborough; Scunthorpe v Matlock; Stoneygate v Vipers. Second division west: Bedworth v Burton; Camp Hill v Dixonians; Dudley Kingswinford v Old Yardleians; Keresley v Wolverhampton; Newbold v Bromsgrove. East Midlands-Leicestershire: Aylestone St James v Luton; Bedford Athletic v Wellingborough; Belgrave v Northampton Trinity; Long Buckby v Hinckley; Oadby Wyggestonians v Biggleswade. Staffordshire and Warwickshire: First division: Coventry Welsh v Old Leamingtonians; Leamington v Nuneaton OE; Leek v Handsworth; Stratford on Avon v Old Longtonians; Willenhall v Newcastle. Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire: Amber Valley v East Retford; Chesterfield v Sleaford; Southwell v Stamford; West Bridgford v Mellish; Worksop v Kesteven. North Midlands: First division: Aston Old Edwardians v Whitchurch; Evesham v Worcester; Kidderminster v Ludlow; Kings Norton v Shrewsbury; Newport v Luctonians.

IRELAND: Ulster Senior Challenge Cup: First round: Ballymena v Coleraine; Malone v Dungannon; NIFC v Ards; Bangor v City of Derry; CIYMS v Collegians; Armagh v Academy; Portadown v Banbridge; Instonians v Queens University. Leinster Senior Cup: Black Rock College v Galwegians; Constitution v Lansdowne; Corinthians v Skerries; Highfield v Old Belvedere; Old Crescent v Clontarf; Shannon v Old Wesley; Wanderers v Garryowen.

TOMORROW

FA Cup
Sixth round
QPR v Liverpool (3.05)
Sheffield U v Manchester U (12.30)

Barclays League
Third division
Bristol R v Leyton Orient (3.0)

INTER-LEAGUE CLUBCALL CUP: Fourth round: Marlow v Bangor City (2.30).
VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Dulwich v Aylesbury (at Bromley FC, 12.0).
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Yate v Canterbury (11.0).
MEMORIAL MATCH: Kevin Rose (Molesey FC, 3.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

3.0 unless stated

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Barrow v Leigh (2.30); Featherstone v Salford (3.30); Hull v Wakefield (3.15); Warrington v Leeds; Widnes v Bradford. Second division: Batley v Oldham; Bramley v Runcorn (3.30); Dewsbury v Workington (3.30); Doncaster v Swinton; Fulham v Huddersfield; Hunslet v Trafford Borough (3.30); Keighley v Ryedale York (3.15); Nottingham v Carlisle; Rochdale v Halifax; Whitehaven v Chorley (3.30).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: London v Bracknell (4.0).
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Brixton v Hemel Hempstead; Worthing v Stevenage (9.0). Second division: Cardiff v Watford; Middlesbrough v Stockport. Women: First division: Brixton v Kingston (2.0); Cardiff v London YMCA (2.0); Ipswich v Gateshead; Nottingham v Sheffield (3.30).

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Second division: Neston v Doncaster (Wyncote SG, 12.0).
NATIONWIDE ANGLIA CUP: Quarter-finals: Old Loughtonians v East Grinstead (Chigwell 2.0); Harleston Magpies v Reading (Dereham 2.0); Havant v Isca (Havant College 2.15); Southgate v Stourport (Picketts Lock, Edmonton 2.0).

UNDER-16 COUNTIES TOURNAMENT: Coventry.
CLUB MATCHES: Aldridge v Kings Heath; Brooklands v North Stafford; GEC Coventry v Streetly; Kettering v Coalville; Loughborough Town v Leicester Thursday; Sutton Coldfield v GEC Rugby O-35; Upton on Severn v Droitwich; Warwick v Bloxwich; West Bridgford v Ashby.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK NATIONAL FINALS (Crystal Palace): Under-18: Women: Purbrook Park (Portsmouth) v Manchester United (10.0). Men: Stokesley School (Middlesbrough) v Caldew School (Carlisle) (12.0). Seniors: Women: Sovereign Leasing Sale v Brixton Knights (2.0). Men: Team Mizuno Malory (London) v Hilton Leeds (4.0).

HANDBALL

BRITISH CUP: Semi-final: Men: Team Calor v Kirkby Select (at Coventry Sports Centre, 6.30).
BRITISH LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Women: North Zone (at University of Hull 11.0).

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Durham v Solihull (6.30); Peterborough v Nottingham (6.30). First division: Humberside v Trafford (5.15); Medway v Telford (5.15); Streatham v Swindon (5.15).
ENGLISH LEAGUE: Play-offs: Bracknell v Chelmsford (5.15); Romford v Oxford City (5.15).
CAPITAL FOODS SCOTTISH CUP: Final (at Murrayfield, 2.0).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: McVities Challenge international cross country trials (Glasgow).
BOWLS: Men's English indoor national championship (Melton); women's national indoor finals (Luton).
CANOEING: Division A wild water championship race (Grandtully, Tayside).
FENCING: National team sabre championships (De Beaumont Centre, West Kensington).
SWIMMING: Applause Young Variety Junior Swimming Championship (Darlington).

SPORT ON TV

Today

ATHLETICS: ITV 3.25-4.45 and 5.15-5.45pm: Coverage of the Pearl Assurance national indoor championships from Cosford.
BIATHLON: Eurosport 10-11am: Highlights of the World championships from Raubuchi, Soviet Union.
BOXING: Eurosport 9-10.30pm: Screensport 11pm-12.30am: Professional event from the United States.
CRICKET: Sky One 1.30-8.40pm: West Indies v England: Second Test: Live coverage of the first day's play: BBC1 12-12.30am (tomorrow): Highlights of the second test.
FOOTBALL: Screensport 8.15-10am, 12-1pm and 10-11pm: Highlights of the Marlboro Cup, and Argentinian League: BBC1 9.40-10.50pm: FA Cup: Highlights of the sixth round.
FORD SKI REPORT: Eurosport 9-10am.
GRANDSTAND: BBC1 12.15-5.05pm: Rugby League: Silk Cut Challenge cup: Live coverage of the first semi-final: Wigan v St Helens: Golf: Highlights of the Super Skins Game from Australia: Figure Skating: Highlights of the World championships from Halifax, Canada: Football: FA Cup: Racing: 1.30, 2.0 and 2.30 from Chepstow: Cricket: West Indies v England: Second Test: Highlights of the first day's play.
HANDBALL: Eurosport 1-4pm: Live coverage of the World championships from Czechoslovakia.
ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 10am-midday: National Hockey League.
ICE SKATING: ITV 3.05-3.35pm and BBC1 11.20pm-midnight: Highlights of the World championships from Halifax, Canada: Eurosport 7-9pm and 11pm-1am: Figure skating: Live coverage and further highlights of the World championships from Halifax, Canada.
MOTORCYCLING: Screensport 6-6.30pm: Ice Speedway: Highlights of the World championships from Assen, The Netherlands.
MOTOR SPORT: Eurosport 12.30-1pm and 10.30-11pm: Formula One highlights from the United States: Screensport 4-6pm: Highlights of the NASCAR Goodwrench 500 from Rockingham.
POWERSPORTS INTERNATIONAL: Screensport 6.30-7.30pm.
RACING: C4 2.55-5.05pm: 3.0, 3.35, 4.10, and 4.40 from Sandown Park.
RESULTS SERVICE: ITV 4.45-5pm.
RUGBY UNION: Screensport 2.30-4pm: Five nations' championship: Highlights of France v Ireland from Paris.
SAINT AND GREAVSIE: ITV 1.10-1.40pm.
SKIING: Eurosport 11am-12.30pm: Highlights of the men's giant slalom from Hemsedal, Norway: Screensport 6-6.30pm: United States pro-tour: Highlights from Mount Bachelor, Oregon.
SURFING: Eurosport 6-6.30pm: Surfer magazine.
TENNIS: Screensport 4-2.30pm and 7.30-9pm: Highlights of the ATP Volvo International final from Memphis.
TENPIN BOWLING: Screensport 7-8.15am: Highlights of the Fair Lanes Open from Baltimore, Maryland.
TRANS WORLD SPORT: Eurosport 4-5pm: Sport from around the world.
UPDATE: Screensport 7.30pm.
YACHTING: C4 11.50pm-12.35am: Whitbread Round The World Race: Highlights of the fourth leg.

Tomorrow

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: ITV 2-4am: College match: Florida v Georgia.
ATHLETICS: Eurosport 4-5pm: Highlights of the IAAF GP from Athens and The Hague: ITV 12.10-12.55am (Monday): Highlights of the McVitie's World cross-country trials.
BASKETBALL: Screensport 8-9.30am: American league.
BIATHLON: Eurosport 11.30-12.30pm: Highlights of the World championships from Raubuchi, Soviet Union.
BOXING: Eurosport 2-3.30pm: Screensport 11.30pm-1.0am: Top Rank event from the United States.
CRICKET: Sky One 1.30-8.45pm: West Indies v England: Second Test: Live coverage of the second day's play. BBC1 12.15-12.45am: Highlights of the second test.
EQUESTRIANISM: Eurosport 6-7pm: 'Horse Show'.
FOOTBALL: BBC1: 3-5pm: Live coverage of QPR v Liverpool in the FA Cup sixth round. Screensport 3.30-5.20am and 12-2pm: Spanish League: Sevilla v Real Madrid, and the Marlboro Cup: Eurosport 7-8pm: Spanish League: Barcelona v Celta.
GOLF: Screensport 10am-midday: United States PGA: Highlights of the Doral Ryder Open from Miami.
ICE HOCKEY: Screensport 6-8pm: National Hockey League.
ICE SKATING: Eurosport 9.30-11.30am and 11pm-1am, and C4 2-3pm: Figure skating: Coverage and further highlights of the World championships from Halifax, Canada. BBC1 10.45-11.30pm: Highlights of the World championships from Halifax, Canada.
MOTORCYCLING: Screensport 9-10pm: Ice Speedway: Highlights of the World championships from Assen, The Netherlands.
MOTOR SPORT: Eurosport 12.30-1pm, 3.30-4pm and 9-11pm and BBC2 11.10-11.45pm: Formula One: Highlights of the Phoenix GP from Arizona: Screensport 4-6am: Highlights of the NASCAR Goodwrench 500 from Rockingham.
POLO WORLD: Screensport 2.15-2.45pm.
POWERSPORTS INTERNATIONAL: Screensport 8-9pm.
RUGBY LEAGUE: Screensport 12.30-2.15am and 10-11.30pm: Highlights of the 1990 French Cup, and Leeds v Wigan: Eurosport 1-2pm: Challenge Cup: Highlights of the first semi-final.
RUGBY SPECIAL: BBC2 5.10-6.15pm: Courage League: Highlights of Gloucester v Harlequins from Kingsholm.
SKIING: Screensport 5.30-6am and 9.30-10am: United States pro-tour: Highlights from Mount Bachelor, Oregon.
TENNIS: Screensport 4-6.30pm: Highlights of the ATP Volvo International final from Memphis.
TENPIN BOWLING: Screensport 2.15-3.00am and 2.45-4pm: Highlights of the Fair Lanes Open from Baltimore, Maryland.
UPDATE: Screensport 8.0pm.

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

Excluded men may be included in the England A team

From Richard Streeton, Bulawayo

A change of selection policy could lead to those players not in the England A team which won the first five day international, being chosen against Zimbabwe today when the second match starts here.

Martin Bicknell, Lawrence and Whitaker, could be selected, therefore, when England finalize their XI shortly before the start. Illingworth the fifteenth member of the tour party has tonsillitis.

Originally it was intended to keep competitive spirts alive by choosing the strongest possible team for the representative fixtures in the normal way. Already, though, England have clinched the one-day series and won the first international.

On such a short, crowded itinerary, the tour management has decided it would be pointless if they failed to ensure that everyone had the opportunity of some cricket. Nobody is underestimating the Zimbabweans, but England would have all the necessary skills whichever players are picked.

Zimbabwe have decided to strengthen their batting and will gamble on only three specialist bowlers. Duers and the left arm Jarvis will share the new ball, with Traicos, the off-spinner, again being relied upon to contribute marathon spells. Shah, an accurate medium pace bowler, who is only second change for his local club, will have to help keep one end going. Several of the batsmen who occasionally bowl, may also be used.

It rather confirms the lack of depth in Zimbabwean bowling resources that there was no obvious candidate to replace Brandes, their fastest bowler, who has a back injury.

February, usually sunny and hot in Argentina, was the wettest anyone can recall this year and judging from the rain which has fallen in the last 48 hours, March is likely to follow suit. A flooded pitch at the Belgrano Club caused the abandonment of the match against the local side on Thursday and it seems certain that today's one-day match against Argentina at Hurlingham will be played on a very damp, slow wicket. Tomorrow the MCC plays an Argentine under-25 side at Lomas.

Arnott, their best equipped batsmen defensively, has been ruled out of the remainder of the series after breaking his right index finger in the first international. The two newcomers in the side are Grant Flower, the younger brother of Andrew Flower, the wicketkeeper, and Darrell Goodwin. David Dolphin, a slow left arm bowler, has also been added to the party.

Grant Flower, aged 19, wins his first cap. He is considered the best prospect among the next generation locally and he can also bowl left arm spin. Flower lingered four hours for 46 for Young Zimbabwe against Nicholas's side at Mutare without suggesting that he possessed many strokes. Goodwin made an aggressive 60 in the same match when he led an attempted run chase on the last day.

Nicholas and Keith Fletcher, the coach, both believe that this English team has not yet reached peak form on the tour which, they are convinced, will have been proved well worthwhile in the years ahead. They were delighted when the word trickled through from the TCCB meeting this week that another A tour had been agreed in principle for next winter.

Fletcher, one suspects, is happier bringing on the emerging skill of his present charges than he would be in Micky Stewart's shoes in the West Indies.

There is nothing in the laws of cricket on the subject but it is a novel sight to see Fletcher accompanying the twelfth man on to the field at drinks breaks to help and pass advice to the players. Barry Dudleston does the same for the Zimbabweans.

This tour is a learning process for both sides but there is no doubt that England are the stronger team.

History on England's side

By Simon Wilde

Considering the extent to which they have dominated the modern game, the recent Test record of West Indies in Georgetown, Guyana, where the second Test starts today, is astonishingly bad. They sustained their only home defeat of the Eighties there (to Pakistan in 1987-88), and last recorded a win at Bourda 25 years ago.

There are two principal reasons for a statistic that would cause embarrassment to a Test side far less powerful than West Indies. Both offer encouragement to England for the present match.

The first is Guyana's climate, which is notoriously wet. Rarely has a Test been staged at Georgetown which has not been affected by rain. The last time England played there, in 1973-74, nearly 13½ hours were lost, and had the fear of a Test there being cancelled through political pressure not led to Georgetown being left off the itinerary four years ago (as had also happened in 1980-81), England might then have been spared their "blackwash".

The second reason for West Indies' poor record at Bourda is the pitches there, which are always easy-paced. Many a dangerous fast bowling attack has been blunted on these docile surfaces, and one of the finest performances on the ground must have been Snow's match figures of 10 for 142 in 1967-68.

Several England batsmen have crafted centuries in Georgetown: Hendren, Hutton, Subba Row, Dexter, Boycott, Amiss and Greig. Hutton's 169 in 7¾ hours was the basis for England's only win on the ground, in 1953-54. Of their other Tests there, two have been lost and four drawn.

In view of the conditions, England have usually opted to play two spinners at Bourda (although they cannot have anticipated in 1967-68 that Lock and Pocock would be the match-savers in a ninth-wicket stand of 109).

Perhaps West Indies would be wise to adopt similar tactics this time. Their side having gone one down in the series, the West Indian fast bowlers would be wanting a venue other than this at which to begin recovering such unexpectedly lost ground, and there is no point their going into the match feeling thwarted before they start.

ATHLETICS: EAST GERMANS COME TO BRITAIN ON AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS VISIT

The success of British sprinting has been underlined this week with the arrival of two of East Germany's leading athletes in this country for coaching under John Isaacs (David Powell writes).

Isaacs coached Marcus Adam to the Commonwealth 200 metres title in Auckland, John Regis to the world indoor 200 metres title last year, and Tony Jarrett to Commonwealth and European indoor silver medals at the high hurdles this year.

His expertise is being put to use in an exchange programme, sponsored by Post Office Counters, which will also see the two leading British women's 800 metres runners, Diane Edwards and Ann Williams, go to East Germany for coaching with the world and Olympic champion, Sigrun Wodars.

Isaacs (centre) is pictured at Haringey, where he coaches his squad, with the East Germans, Frank Emmelmann (right), the former European 100 metres champion, and Steffen Gofner (left).

"I see their stay as an exchange of ideas," Isaacs said. "I want to show them how the system works here, and I want to learn more about their conditioning and technical side."

Norman Poole, who coaches Edwards and Williams, and who will go to East Germany with his athletes, said: "I'm looking forward to developing my weaker areas, particularly the strength and technical aspects."

System will rule out a leading runner

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

A selection system, as inflexible as the one which left Steve Cram unable to defend either of his Commonwealth Games titles in Auckland, means that Britain face the prospect of contesting the men's world cross-country championship at Aix-les-Bains, France, in two weeks, without one of their four leading runners, who all want to take part, while others with much lesser claims make the team.

Tim Hutchings, Eamonn Martin, Gary Staines and Richard Nerurkar can each point to good reasons why they should be included. But, because there are only three discretionary places and none of them is running the trial race at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow, tomorrow, the best the one left out can hope for is to be named as first reserve.

Meanwhile, there are guaranteed places for the first six home in the trial, which will include only two of the first 10 in the English national last month.

Paul Taylor and Sam Carey are the exceptions. Nerurkar stands by his victory as his case for selection, while Steve Tunstall, Kevin Forster, Geoff Turnbull, John Sherban, Craig Mochrie, Paul Cuskin and John Downes have other reasons for declining invitations.

The sadness is that a team including Hutchings, Martin, Staines, Nerurkar, the two Irishmen, Peter McColgan and Deon McNeilly, and Tunstall, Forster and Turnbull, would have stood a chance of going one better than Britain's second place last year.

Taylor and Carey apart, England's entries are a blend of those who finished between eleventh and 29th in the national, two of the leading three juniors, Steve Brooks and John Mayock, and those who missed the national to prepare for the trial.

McColgan, winner of the Northern Ireland and Scotland nationals, Eddie Conway, winner of the Welsh, and McNeilly are likely to be to the fore. Jill Hunter should win the women's trial.

Cricket, boxing videos to be won

The Times today presents an easy-to-enter competition with 20 first prizes — a copy of the official video of England's historic first-Test victory over the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, plus a copy of the British Title Fights Volume 2 video.

The cricket video, entitled Victory — West Indies v England, first Test, 1990, runs for about an hour and captures all the highlights of England's surprising nine-wicket win. It is released by Castle Hendring and is available from leading video stockists from today.

The boxing video, also released by Castle Hendring and running for about an hour, features eight British championship bouts, including Terry Marsh v Clinton McKenzie and Gary Stretch v Gary Cooper.

To enter the competition, answer the six questions below, complete the entry form and send it to Test Video Competition, Sports Department, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive by March 19. The 20 winners will be the senders of the first 20 correct entries opened after March 19.

THE QUESTIONS

1. What trophy is at stake in England v West Indies Test matches?
2. Who captained England when they last won a Test match in the Caribbean (prior to the present series)?
3. Who captained West Indies in that match?
4. Name the West Indian bowler who took 14 wickets in the fifth Test at the Oval in 1976.
5. Which West Indian island staged its first Test match in 1981?
6. What is the name of the main cricket ground in Barbados?

ENTRY FORM

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

ANSWERS

1 .....
2 .....
3 .....
4 .....
5 .....
6 .....

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The competition is not open to employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd, Parkfield Entertainment, and Castle Hendring. Sports Editor's decision is final. No correspondence.

RUGBY UNION

Hein in as Eagles try new blood

By George Ace

The American Eagles have made eight changes from the team that started the match against the Irish Colleges in Dublin on Tuesday night for the game against the Ireland Under-25 side at Thomond Park, Limerick, this afternoon

They include one new cap, in Mike Dejong, at stand-off half. Chip Howard, the team manager, admitted he was disappointed with the 19-18 defeat in Dublin, after the Eagles had held a 15-3 lead at the interval.

Kevin Higgins, the captain, is switched from the wing to the centre to accommodate Gary Hein, of Oxford University.

But with four full international and a bevy of interprovincials in their line-up the odds must favour the Irish, playing in front of the selection panel who meet tomorrow to decide on the team to face Wales.

IRELAND UNDER-25: J Staples (London Irish); J Clarke (Dolphin), P Danaher (Garryowen), capt), V Cunningham (St Mary's College), P Murray (Shannon); P Hensby (Terenure College), A Blair (Dungannon); N Popplewell (Greystones), J O'Riordan (Constitution), G Halpin (Wanderers), K O'Connell (Sunday's Well), P Johns (Dublin University), M Galway (Shannon), D McBride (Malone), B Robinson (Ballymena).
AMERICAN EAGLES: R Nelsen (Los Angeles); G Hale (Old Blues, San Francisco), K Higgins (OMBAC, San Diego, capt), M Williams (Aspen), B Corcoran (Old Blue, New York); M Dejong (Denver Barbarians), B Daily (San Jose Seahawks); C Lippert (OMBAC, San Diego), T McCormack (New Jersey), D James (Old Blues, San Francisco), M Sewell (Southside Irish), K Swords (Beacon Hill, Boston), R Crivellone (OMBAC, San Diego), N Farley (Philadelphia Whitemarsh), G Lambert (White Plains, New York).
Referee: C Norling (Wales).

RUGBY LEAGUE

St Helens hope for revenge

By Keith Macklin

For more than 10 months, thoughts of revenge have occupied the minds of everyone connected with the St Helens club. The awful memory of last April's 27-0 drubbing from Wigan still hurts, and this afternoon at Old Trafford the St Helens will attempt to exorcise the Wigan ghost.

The teams meet again in the semi-final of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, and as the St Helens coach, Mike McClellan, put it yesterday: "The players owe it to themselves, to their families and to their work-mates to put the record straight. We may not win, but if we are beaten again, this time it must be with dignity."

McClellan has only been in charge at Knowsley Road for just over a month, but in that time he has been left in no doubt as to the importance of this afternoon's derby game between ancient and traditional rivals.

He has watched time and again the video tape of last year's Wembley final, and has studied tapes of the Wigan side in recent action, looking for every possible flaw in the apparently impregnable Central Park armoury. He has also told his players to stop brooding over last year's events, and to raise their game to its highest peak this afternoon.

The Wigan coach, John Monie, is also a virtual newcomer to the rivalry between St Helens and Wigan, but he arrived at the start of the season and has had time to digest its significance.

He is aware of the wounded pride in the St Helens ranks, and is expecting a hard game. "Everyone wants to play well against Wigan, and the Saints, under their new coach, will lift their game against us. It will not be easy this time," Monie said.

I expect Wigan's dominance in all competitions this season to continue before a crowd approaching 30,000 at Old Trafford, but endorse the view that St Helens will go down fighting.

Wigan's hold on the leadership of the first division will remain intact this weekend, but Leeds can keep on their heels with victory over the Challenge Cup semi-finalists, Warrington, at Wilderspool. The last remaining chance Widnes had of overhauling the leaders disappeared at Featherstone on Wednesday.

Wembley selling job under way

By Keith Macklin

Already the publicity and organizational wheels are in motion to achieve the essential success for the first international in the three-match series against Australia, the world champions, next winter.

The match will be played at Wembley, a bold venture by the Rugby Football League which will evoke loud hurrahs if it is successful, but an embarrassing barrage of criticism if it fails.

Many cautious voices within the sport wanted to play safe and hold all the international games against the Kangaroos at acknowledged northern venues

A spirit of adventure and progressive thinking won the day, as the board of directors, and particularly Maurice Lindsay, the marketing director, who is also the Great Britain manager, opted for a high-level profile and the attendant high-level risk.

For the Wembley experiment to be deemed a success, an attendance at a minimum level of 40,000 is required, and for it to be an outstanding success the figure will need to hit 50,000 or 60,000. When the first international of the 1986 series against Australia was played at Old Trafford, there was a crowd of more than 50,000 and comparisons will be inevitable.

A figure less than 30,000 will produce a mocking chorus of "I told you so" from a variety of sources and wounded pride will be epidemic throughout headquarters officials at Leeds.

So the skilful wooings have begun as the league's efficient publicity and public relations machinery announces its first package of lures designed to create for the Wembley game against the world champions the same enthusiasm that is *annually generated for the game's* star attraction, the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final

Despite the fact that the all-conquering Kangaroos are the world's foremost attraction, there is still a selling job to be done to bring the thousands down from the north, away from live television coverage of the match.

Prices for the Australian game will be greatly reduced from cup final prices. The top ticket for the Silk Cut event costs £29, but to see the Australians it will be £15, with lower prices at £12, £10 and £8. There will be a concessionary price for children of £6.

ROWING

Record entry for women's Head of River

The fiftieth women's eight Head of the River Race will be held today as it was 60 years ago over the 4¼ mile Mortlake to Putney course (a Special Correspondent writes).

The race, inaugurated in 1930, was not held from 1940 to1949, and, when restarted in 1950, it was held over shorter courses. The race reverted to the original Mortlake to Putney course in 1986.

In 1930, when rowing was distinctly unfashionable for young women, a total of five crews entered. Today, a record 168 crews, including oversees entries from Austria, Germany and The Netherlands ranging from veteran to novice class, will set out from Mortlake at 3.30pm.

EQUESTRIANISM

Badminton prospects get their first outing

By Jenny MacArthur

Virginia Leng, the world and European three-day event champion, heads the 700-strong list of entries for the Crookham horse trials, which take place at Tweseldown racecourse in Hampshire this weekend.

The starting list for the three-day trials — supported by Pedigree pet foods — reads like a *Who's Who* of eventing with Lucinda Green, Robert Lemieux, Mark Todd, Leslie Law, Mary Thomson and Jemima Johnson among those giving their likely Badminton horses their first outing of the new season.

Leng is not sure whether Griffin, the horse she will ride in Sunday's open intermediate class, will compete at Badminton. The 10-year-old gelding, formerly ridden by Ian Stark, had an impressive win at the Rotherfield three-day event last year, but Leng would prefer to compete at Burghley with the horse in September before tackling Badminton. She may aim him at the French event at Saumur this summer.

While the Badminton horses provide the focal point of this weekend, the military and veterans classes have also attracted a strong entry. The Princess Royal, riding Maggi Jo, will compete in the former. She is Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Signals, 14/20th Hussars, and the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters.

The veterans are headed by Jane Holderness-Roddam, chairman of the selectors, who will ride 23-year-old Warrior, winner of Badminton in 1978.

VOLLEYBALL

Underdogs with a large appetite for success

By Roddy Mackenzie

Hilton Leeds, approaching the first big final in their 17-year history, will adopt a low-key approach to tomorrow's Royal Bank English Men's Cup final against Team Mizuno Malory at Crystal Palace. Richard Harrison, the team coach, explained yesterday: "Many people seem to be writing us off — not as no-hopers, but they seem to think there is no way we can win. That just might suit us.

"I think we'll be the hungrier team as this is the first time we've been in a position to win one of the major trophies and there might not be another chance for some of the players involved."

George Bulman, the national director of the English Volleyball Association, was involved in the formative years of the club in the Seventies. The only survivor is Dave Speers, who will be in the squad.

Malory, who have won the trophy for the last three years, are poised to repeat last year's league and cup double success. They moved a step closer to the league title by beating Dynamo London 3-0 on Wednesday.

Richard Dobell, who was ordered to rest an ankle injury earlier in the week, is a doubtful starter but, as the most talented setter in the country, is likely to beinvolved. Williams is attempting a remarkable double tomorrow as he will also coach Brixton Knights in the women's cup final against Sovereign Leasing Sale.

Brixton have only lost once this season — to Hilton Leeds last weekend when they were without two key players — but this is their first appearance in a cup final. "We won't be reading too much into the fact that this is their first final," Ian Goswell, the Sale coach, said.

Sale have lost in the final for the last two years but Goswell has a well-organized side which is particularly strong in the back court. They have missed Nicky Fowler, the England international, who has not played because of injury since November.

FENCING

Cohen going for record

By Lesley Drennan

Ian Williams, aged 22, the British sabre champion and international No. 1, has returned from his Hungarian training camp in Budapest to defend his national title at the British championships in Manchester today.

Strongest rival on the home front will be Richard Cohen, aged 42, the last person in British sabre fencing to win a major international title — the Paris Touzard in 1980. Cohen seems this year to be making a comeback, having won the two main British opens at Leicester and Cardiff. He is also trying for a record sixth national sabre title.

Windsurfing regattas in sponsorship

By Malcolm McKeag

Substantial sponsorship for British windsurfing for the next three years was announced yesterday by the Royal Yachting Association and Lambs Navy Rum. The Lambs Navy Windsurfing Championships will be an annual eight-regatta series to take in what is presently the British Funboard Cup.

The three-day events will be held in two series, April to May and September to October, in venues from Sussex to Yorkshire, Wales and Devon.

Lambs already sponsor Jonathan Hutchcroft, the first division world champion, and although funboarding is not an Olympic discipline, the sponsorship will be "crucial" to Britain's 1992 windsurfing medal prospects, according to Phil Jones, windsurfing manager of the association.

"The funboard circuit is now the acknowledged feeding ground for Olympic windsurfing, which is frankly not attractive to most windsurfers," he said. "The bronze medal winner in Pusan came from funboarding and, in 1992, it is likely all the medal winners will be on the funboard circuit."

Funboarding, from casual off-the-beach sailing to the world-wide circus of professional events, *is the glamorous side of* windsurfing. There are three disciplines: speed, slalom and wave. Courses are short and tortuous, slaloms run close to the beach for spectator appeal; and — when surf conditions permit — the wave discipline involves a cross between surfing and aerobatics.

YACHTING

Rucanor motoring in at speed for fifth leg

By Malcolm McKeag

Rucanor Sport, of Belgium, last in Division D and the only Whitbread yacht still at sea, has formally retired from the fourth leg of the race and is motoring with all despatch towards Punta del Este so as to have time to prepare for the race restart next Saturday. She should arrive on Monday.

The yacht collided with a whale just after the start of the leg, damaging the rudder, and returned 500 miles to New Zealand for repairs.

When Rucanor set out again, she was 1,500 miles behind the fleet, what little chance she had of catching up quickly disappearing as she and the others met either light stern winds or strong headwinds instead of the expected sleigh-ride to the Horn.

The slower-than-predicted leg has shortened the time in port for all yachts, to the relief of most: a much-criticized feature of the race has been that the yachts have spent more time in port, at the stop-overs, than they have at sea, racing.

In the Globe Challenge single-handed race, where the yachts have spent all their time at sea and none in port, Tituoan Lamazou was yesterday less than 1,800 miles from the finish and had begun to open out his lead on Loick Peyron, lying second.

Peyron is carrying a 14-hour time bonus, compensation for time he lost assisting a fellow competitor who had capsized, and Lamazou needs to have some 150 miles in hand: yesterday he was 106 miles ahead, having covered 248 miles in the previous 24 hours. The pair are now expected to reach the finish at Les Sables d'Olonne, on the Atlantic coast of France, on Thursday.

Patrice Carpentier, who last weekend pulled out from the race and into the Falklands, for repairs, appears to have been made less than welcome. "I have no local money, my credit cards are no good here and everyone is too busy to help me," he reported to his base.

Busy time for Smith

After the news that Chris Dickson, the New Zealand world match race champion, has joined the Japanese Nippon America's Cup challenge as principal helmsman for a reputed $1 million (approximately £606,000), comes the information that Lawrie Smith has taken advantage of the stopover in the Whitbread Round the World race to return from Uruguay to England to finalize arrangements to steer Peter de Savary's British Cup challenger (Barry Pickthall writes).

Smith, already one of the highest-paid yachtsmen in Britain after lucrative contracts with Kevin Parry's Australian Kookaburra Cup challenge and now with Rothmans, could well become the first £1 million sailor.

Rothmans are also keen to retain him to lead a second Whitbread Round the World race challenge in three years time, following the next America's Cup.

TENNIS

High marks for Capriati in first week

From Barry Wood
Boca Raton, Florida

Jennifer Capriati continued to justify the attention focused on her first week as professional by defeating Nathalie Tauziat 6-4, 6-2, to reach the quarter-finals of the Virginia Slims tournament here.

A consequence of her success is that her school sends the 13-year-old her lessons by fax machine. Her usual routine is to study from 7.0 until 11.0, then play tennis, and then study again for an hour in the evening. Bedtime is 9.30, but she was allowed to stay up and play doubles with Billie Jean King, losing in the second round.

One of the most remarkable aspects of her game is the manner in which she is able to turn potential defeat into merely a temporary setback.

In her first match, she conceded 10 consecutive points at one stage, but then recovered her poise to beat Mary Lou Daniels in straight sets. She then lost the second set 6-0 to *Claudia Porwik, but took* the third with ease. And against Tauziat, ranked 16 in the world, she responded at 4-1 down by winning seven games in a row.

Results can sometimes mislead, but Capriati was the superior player. She not only took her chances better, but was also adept at hurrying Tauziat into errors.

RESULTS: Third Round: G Sabatini (Arg) bt R Reggi (It), 6-2, 6-1; D Van Rensburg (SA) bt P Shriver (US), 7-5, 6-1; M J Fernandez (US) bt J Wiesner (Austria), 6-4, 6-1; A Coetzer (SA) bt H Mandlikova (Aus), 2-6, 6-2, 6-3; J Capriati (US) bt N Tauziat (Fr), 6-4, 6-2; H Sukova (Cz) bt H Cioffi (US), 6-4, 4-6, 6-1; J Novotna (Cz) bt A Gavaldon (US), 6-1, 4-0; L Gildemeister (Peru) bt M Seles, (Yug), 6-1, 7-5.

Argument with Agassi on cup place worsens

From Richard Evans, Indian Wells, California

The row between Andre Agassi and Tom Gorman, his Davis Cup captain, has escalated here at Grand Champions, where Agassi has reached the quarter-finals of the $1 million (£610,000) Newsweek Cup.

Having first agreed to play against Czechoslovakia in Prague later this month and then changed his mind 24 hours later, the 19-year-old from Las Vegas sought to imply that this was all the fault of a captain whom he called "narrow-minded", "a follower rather than a leader" and a "chameleon".

When Gorman asked Agassi to join the team for the tie against Mexico last month, he stressed that he wanted all the team members to come alone, or only with their wives, so that a proper team spirit could be fostered.

Agassi, who rarely talks to anyone on the tour, is always accompanied by his brother, his coach and at least two other friends.

There are obviously a number of differences between Gorman and several members of the squad. The former Wimbledon semi-finalist is a thoroughly nice man who may not be strong enough to handle millionaire tennis players, but then there are not many qualified people who would be.

John McEnroe has not found Gorman an inspiring leader and that has much to do with his absence from the team.

Gorman was disappointed at Agassi's absence from a meeting Gorman had called with all the possible Davis Cup players the previous evening. "Everyone had their say and there are some things that we will do differently in the future," Gorman said. "But if Andre had been there I am sure he would have not said the things he said today."

Aaron Krickstein, who will replace Agassi in Prague, admitted that he had a few differences with Gorman but was harder on Agassi. "I would think what Andre did in pulling out was pretty gutless," he said.

RESULTS: Third round: B Becker (WG) bt H Sloff (Austria), 6-4, 1-6, 7-6; S Edberg (Swe) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 6-4, 6-0.

Michael Seely investigates the preparations behind Desert Orchid's challenge for a second Cheltenham Gold Cup

Harnessing an insuperable will to win

By 11 o'clock the sun had climbed high into the cloudless sky above Whitsbury. Eight days before Desert Orchid's attempt to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup for the second time, cooing pigeons and flowering daffodils welcomed the arrival of spring.

The nation's idol, at peace with himself, looked up impassively from his mid-morning feed and regarded the intruder. After allowing a brief scratching between his ears, he returned to the sweet Kent hay on the floor of his box. All was calm.

Yet four hours earlier the yard had been a hive of activity as David Elsworth supervised the gathering of first lot, including Desert Orchid, Barnbrook Again, Cavvies Clown and the rest of the team for the National Hunt Festival.

The calm workaday scene belied an underlying tension as the highlight of the jumping year approaches. Desert Orchid has become the most popular steeplechaser in history, and the growing cult of the grey legend has dramatically changed the life of the obscure Hampshire hamlet and of those who work on Chris Harper's estate.

Elsworth, a bouncing ball of hyper-activity, has always thrived on the big occasion. But in the build-up to the Festival and afterwards to the Grand National, the trainer's normally voluble lips are sealed.

"I've been signed up by a national newspaper," he said. "They want my exclusive views about the Gold Cup, Cheltenham and Aintree. They're paying me a lot of money which will help to educate my children. I'm sorry, but there it is."

Yet Desert Orchid's impact spreads beyond Elsworth, throughout the close-knit team at Whitsbury. Rodney Boult, the head lad, rides the grey in his home work.

"He changes as he gets fitter," says Boult, now seven years with Elsworth. "He gets more spring in his step, and he gets meaner. He likes to be the boss. When Cavvies Clown drew alongside him the other morning he bared his teeth and went for him. He's been like that since before he won at Kempton recently.

"He even went for me in his box the other day, after he'd finished rolling. I told him to hurry up and get a move on and let me put his tack on. He squealed and had a go at me, although it was only in fun."

Desert Orchid has improved steadily with racing. After his recent Kempton win, *Timeform* rated him the best chaser since Arkle, a truly glowing compliment.

"He's an athlete and always reminds me of Seb Coe," Boult says. "He loves to run and he loves to beat the others. And he's got the same beautiful, rhythmic stride.

"Human athletes can motivate themselves, but with horses our job is to keep them happy, relaxed and enjoying themselves. Only years of hard graft develops stamina and strength. We've got to turn big soft babies into big tough racehorses."

That the champion is always allowed to dominate his stable companions has been another factor in his development. "He never gets told off or scolded," says Boult. "He's developed a tremendous sense of character, a determination to beat everything. You could see it when he tried to go for Yahoo in the Gold Cup, and for Panto Prince at Ascot. He wanted to ride them off."

Boult's admiration for Elsworth knows no bounds. "He's got this instinctive feeling for animals. He can get inside a horse's head and read him. He's got this more than any man I've known, and I've worked for the likes of Dick Hern and John Dunlop."

The head lad warmed to his theme. "It's uncanny. He gets into the human mind as well. He's got this nosey way of looking at people."

But when raceday dawns, Boult adheres to a self-imposed ban. "I've been to watch him six times and he's been beaten six times. I'm not officially banned, but how can I go with a record like that?"

Janice Coyle, Desert Orchid's "lad" for the past three years, sees the stable star from a slightly different perspective. "He's something very special to all of us, and you can't stop people trying to make him something extra. But basically he's just an ordinary racehorse, although a good one. And I'm only an ordinary working girl with a job to do."

Like Boult, Coyle notices the changes in the grey. "He finds the work hard. As he gets fitter, he gets more bad tempered, determined and full of mischief. It's a good sign. But with a week to go he's just about there and they're just keeping him ticking over. That's made him a bit kinder and more relaxed."

Much of the strain of looking after the two Whitsbury superstars, Elsworth and Desert Orchid, falls on the trainer's wife, Jane. "You can't expect life to go on as normal with a horse like Desert Orchid," she says. "It gives an extra dimension to life, and my daughter Jessica becomes acutely aware of this at school with everyone talking to her about it. I even had someone knock on the door the other day and ask where the souvenir shop was."

About her husband: "He's got this instinctive rapport with horses. It's all intuition. If he'd been a Spitfire pilot, he'd have flown by the seat of his pants."

The trainer moves about *like lightning*. "He's *like* a hyper-active child. He had all the television sets taken out of the house at Christmas because he thought it was wasting his children's time. He can't bear to see anything relax. If a dog goes to sleep on the floor, he pokes it to wake it up."

Above all, however, Elsworth is a kind and generous-spirited man. The long racing lives of Desert Orchid, Cavvies Clown and Floyd pay eloquent testimony to his treatment. This week he not only gave your correspondent a free hand, he also allowed a 40-strong visit by the Racegoers' Club only five days before the start of Cheltenham.

Elsworth has urged backers to seize the 16-1 available about Cavvies Clown, advising each-way support for the recent Wincanton winner.

However, Chris Hill, Elsworth's bearded secretary and office mastermind, disagrees. "I know David is very pleased with Cavvies Clown and that he's a Cheltenham horse. He fell when in the lead three out in the Sun Alliance. The following season he slammed Ten Plus over the course before making a bad mistake when second to Charter Party in the Gold Cup.

"But Desert Orchid looks *outstanding. It's not a good* race. Bonanza Boy is second favourite and you'd say he was a bad winner of the race if he pulled it off. Last year the desperate ground pulled Desert Orchid back to Yahoo."

The whole yard is adamant that Barnbrook Again will repeat last year's win in the Queen Mother Two-Mile Champion Chase. "I don't see what's going to stop him," Hill went on. "Sabin Du Loir's next best, but they're not in the same class.

"Last year's winners, Desert Orchid and Barnbrook Again, are best prospects. Then we've got five sporting chances, Cavvies Clown, Major Inquiry *in the Triumph*, Riverhead in the Waterford Supreme Novices' Hurdle on the first day, Floyd in the Stayers' Hurdle, Ghofar in the Cathcart or the Ritz and Rustic Comedy in the County Hurdle."

JULIAN HERBERT

Primed and ready to fire: as the festival approaches, Desert Orchid (Rodney Boult) is a study in controlled power and determination on the Whitsbury gallops

Beech Road rumours dismissed by Balding

Toby Balding is posting a 24 hour-guard on his champion hurdler, Beech Road, who is due to defend his crown at Cheltenham on Tuesday.

Bookmaker speculation hinted that all was not well with the ante-post favourite but the trainer was quick to scotch such suggestions at Sandown Park yesterday.

"The horse is 100 per cent," he said. "Because he is favourite I have now arranged to place a 24-hour guard on him." Beech Road has eased from 6-4 to 7-4 with Hills and Ladbrokes, who both report a flood of money for Kribensis, the second favourite.

Michael Stoute's charge, a 4-1 chance at the start of the week, is now 5-2 from 3-1. Morley Street, the champion's stable companion, is 12-1 from 14-1 with Ladbrokes.

Trainer in form at Sandown yesterday was Charlie Brooks, who has his team back on song just in time for Cheltenham. A virus has restricted the activities of his Lambourn stable in recent weeks but Abbotts View, Okeetee and Battalion combined to give him a 49-1 treble.

Abbotts View was sickening for the virus when disappointing at Warwick previously but left that form way behind with an eight-length win over the 11-8 favourite, Bourbon Spirit, in the first division of the Lilac Novices' Hurdle.

The runner-up returned hobbling, having broken down on the run-in, and will not race again, although vets are hoping to save his life.

Okeetee, 11-10 favourite for the BMW Series Novices' Chase Qualifier, jumped soundly under Ben de Haan, made much of the running, and was always holding the challenge of Power Punch. Okeetee will now attempt to stretch his winning run to four in the *Racing Post* Novice Chase Series Final over 2½ miles at Newbury on March 24.

Peter Scudamore, who partnered Abbotts View, completed a double when Battalion beat Cowarth Park by a head in the Balvenie Malt Whisky Handicap Hurdle. However, the combination had to survive an objection from Declan Murphy on the runner-up and a stewards' inquiry before being allowed to keep the race.

There were royal smiles all round when the Queen proudly presented the Queen Mother with the *Horse and Hound* Grand Military Gold Cup after The Argonaut had come home unchallenged by 15 lengths from Sea Ovac.

The Argonaut was giving the Queen Mother her fourth success in the race in seven years. Special Cargo completed a treble in the royal colours from 1984-86.

Nick The Brief's tough case

By Christopher Goulding

With a cigar that resembles a stick of dynamite firmly planted between his lips, John Upson dismounted from his hunter and declared: "You can't better a ride in the morning, especially if you've been at the port the night before."

The ritual of taking the morning air will be badly-needed if, on Thursday, Upson's Nick The Brief becomes the first permit-trained horse to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup since Lord Stalbridge collected with Red Rover in 1945.

"When Nick won the Vincent O'Brien Gold Cup at Leopardstown, we bought the Berkeley Court Hotel in Ireland," reflected Upson. "Winning has to be enjoyed."

Upson, though, does not lead the life of a full-time *bon vivant*. The 46-year-old works hard and plays hard. After supervising his string on the Northamptonshire downland, Upson then juggles with figures at his Milton Keynes office.

He has become an astute player of the property market and has built up a business, Erostin, worth in excess of £50 million. "It's an 18-hour day, but I relish it. There are really 40 years of productivity in you and I am delighted to be doing it now."

It was through business that he became involved in racing. "I was linked with a company that purchased a racehorse, Greenwood Star, and it was a tremendous success. When I started my company it was suggested that we needed to profile the name by sponsoring a racing car or something of that nature. In the end we got a horse, Erostin Star. It was a disaster."

Undeterred, Upson was soon owning racehorses. "It started in Ireland when I met Tom Costello at a point-to-point. He is really my mentor and supplies many of my horses."

Upson then became involved in bloodstock in Ireland, where he still has point-to-pointers and broodmares. He also had horses with Stan Mellor for several seasons. "Stan was to become his own worst enemy when he suggested that I ought to have the horses at home in the summer to get to know them."

Upson did get to know them exceedingly well and Mellor never saw them again. "I put it to Tom Costello about the feasibility of training and he gave me the encouragement to have a go. I brought over Terry Casey to train for one season. And Tom's son, John, came over the following year to teach me."

New Upson has 18 of his own stabled at Adstone. "We have a marvellous set-up and a tremendous team. It's like one large family. Brian Rothwell is my assistant and I take all the credit when 90 per cent of it is down to him and the staff."

Next season Upson will apply for a full licence. "With a permit, you are restricted to jumping. Not that I would like to go into the Flat in a big way — I'm a dyed-in-the-wool National Hunt man — but we do have a couple that could win on the Flat.

"I would also like to train for friends and concentrate on quality horses, like the the Dickinsons managed to do. I have tremendous respect for their achievements, especially Mrs Dickinson. Eventually, I'd hope to devote all my time to training. When I'm 75, I don't want to be a *property developer*."

Upson confesses that he has not backed Nick The Brief for the Gold Cup, despite the rewards the horse has brought his staff.

"I only have half a dozen bets a year. It's just as satisfying to see one of my horses win a small race at Towcester. In reality, if everyone accounted for their betting, very few would be winning.

"I rate my horse's chances very highly. Desert Orchid, of course, is a super horse but I *think last year's race was one of* the worst Gold Cups, with Yahoo finishing so close." Not many of Desert Orchid's admirers would agree.

"I honestly believe my horse to be a lot better than Yahoo, who is no more than a good handicapper. Last year Nick was unlucky not to win the Sun Alliance Chase. His jockey asked him for big one at the last and, with this horse, if you do that, he will put down."

While a number of jockeys were associated with Nick The Brief last season, he now has a regular partner in Martin Lynch.

"Martin really knows the horse and, even more important, the horse knows him. There has to be that rapport. We are learning all the time about this horse but, for him to run his best, we will need a lot of rain. The heavier the ground the better."

Cheltenham team: John Upson, with Gold Cup contender, Nick The Brief, and lad, Tom Bodily, in the saddle

Bought as an unbroken three-year-old by Upson for Ir£9,000, the bay, who has an immaculate white star on his forehead, was already 17 hands without shoes. Now eight, and the winner of 10 of his 26 outings, he has beaten the best Ireland has to offer, in the shape of Carvill's Hill and Maid Of Money, and is improving with every outing.

"He gets his name from a friend, Nicholas Wilson, a barrister, who settled a job very quickly for me. The horse has changed his life. Every time he runs, Nicholas is there cheering him on."

Come Thursday, it is not inconceivable that Wilson's namesake could settle another job for Upson.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Ayr, Plumpton.
TUESDAY: Cheltenham, Sedgefield.
WEDNESDAY: Cheltenham, Newton Abbot.
THURSDAY: Cheltenham, Hexham.
FRIDAY: Wolverhampton, Fakenham.
SATURDAY: Chepstow, Newcastle, Uttoxeter, Lingfield Park.

Clannad set for encore at Derwent

Point-to-point by Brian Beel

The point-to-point season gathers pace today with 12 meetings spread across England and Wales.

In the Audi qualifier at the Derwent, Clannad returns to compete in the race he won last year for Sarah Horner. Clannad was beaten once only in six outings last term.

William Barlow appears to have the best chance, aboard Oakley House, when he rides against his brothers, David and Charles, in the equivalent event at the Cumberland.

The same sponsor's qualifier, for the Cheltenham final on May 2, has been split into two divisions at the Oakley. Bolands Cross is an interesting entry in the first, while Richard Russell, now recovered from his three cracked ribs, will be re-united with Arctic Paddy in division two.

With 242 entries, the Brecon will be running their 10 races at half hourly intervals. The moment of glory for 11-year-old Tixall Boy may finally have come in the first division of the maiden.

At the North Ledbury, Romulex is expected to run in the ladies and, though a non-winner for two years, should come out best.

The race for novice riders has been divided at the Avon Vale where Ascertainmoor and Andrew Wardell look a winning combination in division one.

At the Western, For A Lark will be chasing his fifth win of the season and, with Carl's Choice down to go in the open at the Dunston Harriers, rather than the ladies, As You Were, under Nicola Bothway, has a chance to make amends for his fall at Higham a fortnight ago..

Pepe Blues, beaten into second place by Royal Buskins, at Nedge, could return to the winner's enclosure after the Land Rover open at the Silverton.

Douglas Brig had Call Collect to contend with in a hunter chase at Kelso last time out. He did not disgrace himself in third place and has nothing of that calibre against him in the Land Rover event at the Cumberland.

Joey Newton has a strong hand at the Brocklesby with Periscope. True Dowry and White City Boy engaged in the adjacent and open.

Runner-up in both his races this season, Falside should go one better in the restricted at the South East Hunts' Club.

Today's meetings

Avon Vale, Nedge, 5m NE of Wells (12.30 start): Brecon, Llanfrynach, 3m SE Brecon, (12.0); Brocklesby, Brocklesby Park, 10m W of Grimsby, (2.0); Cumberland Farmers, Dalston, 5m S of Carlisle, (1.0); Derwent, Charm Park, 5m SW Scarborough, (1.0); Dunston Harriers, Ampton, 4m N of Bury St Edmunds, (1.0); North Ledbury, Upton on Severn, 3m N of Tewkesbury, (1.30); Oakley, Newton Bromswold, 3m SE of Rushden, (1.0); Silverton, Haldon, 6m SW of Exeter, (1.0); Sir W W Wynn's, Eaton Hall, 4m S of Chester, (12.30); South East Hunts, Parham, 3m SE of Pulborough, (1.0); Western, Royal Show Ground, Wadebridge, (1.0).

Simpson considers Delamere move

Upper Lambourn trainer Rod *Simpson confirmed yesterday* he is considering a move to the nearby Delamere Stables, formerly the base of the now-retired Ray Laing.

Simpson has been looking for a new yard since he decided to put his Neardown stables on the market seven months ago. "Negotiations are still going on, but I am definitely interested in moving to Delamere Stables," Simpson said.

"We might be in a position to announce a decision in three or four days' time."

Simpson, who has been at Neardown for six years, was forced to sell when his string was cut after the yard's former owner Terry Ramsden pulled out of racing. "I've been looking at a number of places, but I didn't consider Manton!" Simpson added.

The historic Delamere yard — which housed the 1934 Derby winner Windsor Lad — has been vacant for about two years. Smaller than Simpson's present base, it is an ideal size for his reduced string and conveniently *placed for the gallops.*

Terry Casey, currently based at Thorpe Mandeville Manor, near Banbury, is all set to finalise the move to Neardown and Simpson could be in a position to move into his new base within four weeks.

● Stuart Turner was taken to Lincoln County Hospital for X-rays on his chest yesterday after he was hurt in a fall from Marsir in the Bet With The Tote Novices' Chase qualifier at Market Rasen.

AYR

Selections

By Manderin

2.0 Ah Jim Lad. 2.30 Share A Friend. 3.0 Randolph Place. 3.30 Killone Abbey. 4.0 Mercurius. 4.30 Fisherman's Croft.
Michael Seely's selection: 4.0 TActico.

Going: heavy

2.0 AYRSHIRE YEOMANRY CUP MAIDEN HURDLE (Amateurs: £2,197: 2m 6f) (10 runners)
1 5-00 AH JIM LAD 21 A Stringer 6-12-0 ..... N Wilson (7)
2 0P00 CEVA PARK 18 G Earnshaw 6-12-0 ..... G McCann (7)
3 00 OFF THE MRU 42 Mrs G Bradburne 6-12-0 ..... J Bradburne (5)
4 40PP STAR OF ESK 47 G Richards 6-12-0 ..... R Hale (7)
5 0PU0 CARRY THE CAM 33 C Smith 6-11-9 ..... J Cornwall (7)
6 00 GRAND OCCASION 34 D Thom 6-11-9 ..... Miss S Waugh (7)
7 0-P NIGHT TIME GIRL 29 W Young 7-11-9 ..... F Nelson (7)
8 0000 THE PINK SISTERS 10 T Cunningham 7-11-9 ..... S Sellars (5)
9 400 REMEMBER THE ALAMO 14 J J O'Neill 5-11-4 ..... S O'Sullivan (7)
10 4 OFF AND ON 18 I Semple 4-10-13 ..... P Moloney (7)

3-1 Grand Occasion, 4-1 Ceva Park, 6-1 Remember The Alamo, The Pink Sisters, 8-1 Off The Bru, 12-1 others.

2.30 AFTON NOVICES CHASE (£2,467: 2m 4f) (4)
1 1U11 SHARE A FRIEND 10 (D,G,S) G Richards 6-11-5 ..... N Doughty
2 -3PF BORDER OAK 14 J Charlton 8-11-4 ..... B Storey
3 -P5U MARLEFIELD 35 J Oliver 8-11-4 ..... T Reed
4 221/ SHERMAN GUTREY 848 (F,G,S) G Richards 9-11-4 ..... L O'Hara (5)

4-9 Share A Friend, 5-1 Border Oak, 13-2 Sherman Gutrey, 8-1 Marlefield.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: G Moore, 24 winners from 93 runners, 25.8%; N Tinkler, 9 from 38, 23.7%; G Richards, 61 from 264, 23.1%; W A Stephenson, 30 from 161, 18.6%; J Charlton, 10 from 70, 14.3%; M Naughton, 14 from 112, 12.5%.

JOCKEYS: G McCourt, 13 winners from 44 rides, 29.5%; N Doughty, 31 from 142, 21.8%, Mr J Bradburne, 4 from 23, 17.4%; D Byrne, 5 from 29, 17.2%, L Wyer, 12 from 70, 17.1%, B Storey, 21 from 148, 14.2%.

3.0 LADY ISLE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,343: 2m 6f) (8)
1 U046 RANDOLPH PLACE 14 (B,S) G Richards 9-12-0 ..... N Doughty
2 0310 VALE OF SECRECY 14 (CD,V,B) R Fisher 9-11-2 ..... D Byrne
3 4000 CARNAL PARR 19 (C,F,S) T Caldbert 7-11-1 ..... B Storey
4 U045 EASTERN OASIS 22 (CD,F,G,S) J Andrews 7-11-0 ..... R Pusey
5 50PP HELLO GEORGE 18 (F,G) T Craig 7-10-7 ..... D Nolan
6 0P44 GUNNER MAC 8 (CD,G,S) N Bycroft 7-10-0 ..... G Hetzer
7 0040 MACHO MAN 21 (C,S) J J O'Neill 5-10-0 ..... R Supple
8 10/P FLYING OATS 32 (CD,S) W Reed 10-10-0 ..... T Reed

3-1 Randolph Place, 4-1 Gunner Mac, 5-1 Eastern Oasis, 11-2 Vale Of Secrecy, 8-1 Macho Man, 10-1 others.

3.30 WESTERN MEETING CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (£2,846: 3m 110yd) (5)
1 1/0P MIGHTY MARK 21 (C,G,S) F Walton 11-12-0 ..... B Storey
2 U21U KILLONE ABBEY 21 (C,S) W A Stephenson 7-11-3 ..... C Grant
3 -U01 FURLANA WONDER 18 (S) J J O'Neill 6-10-1 ..... R Supple
4 001P BROWNHILL LASS 7 (CD,S) R Goldie 9-10-0 ..... G Supple (7)
5 400P COOL BREW 21 (CD,S) R Pelley 13-10-0 ..... T Reed

Evens Killone Abbey, 100-30 Mighty Mark, 11-2 Brownhill Lass, 6-1 Furlana Wonder, 12-1 Cool Brew.

4.0 DOONHOLM HANDICAP CHASE (£2,716: 2m) (4)
1 0040 UNEX-PLANED 16 (CD,BF,G,S) G Moore 7-11-10 ..... G McCourt
2 P021 TACTICO 49 (B,U,F,G,S) J J O'Neill 8-11-7 ..... R Supple
3 5-P6 TAVERN TIME 23 (G,S) R Pelley 9-10-0 ..... T Reed
4 5111 MERCURIUS 29 (CD,S) D Robertson 8-10-8 ..... B Storey

11-10 Tactico, 7-4 Mercurius, 4-1 Unex-Planed, 16-1 Tavern Time.

4.30 CREE LODGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,022: 2m) (7)
1 1722 FISHERMAN'S CROFT 14 (CD,BF,V,G,S) N Tinkler 4-11-10 ..... G McCourt
2 0410 WARWICK SUITE 4 (V,CD,G,S) M Naughton 5-11-6 ..... R Supple
3 5001 ON THE HOOCH 21 (S) Mrs S Bradburne 5-11-5 ..... Mr J Bradburne
4 3-40 IZADYAR 21 (CD,G,S) I Semple 6-10-13 ..... J K Greene
5 10-0 GO CRAZY 112 (S) Mrs D Oughton 5-10-12 ..... T Reed
6 0304 PIT PONY 54 (CD,BF,G,S) J S Wilson 5-10-12 ..... L Wyer
7 -0PP VELVET PEARL 22 (B,F) I Semple 7-10-11 ..... N Doughty

4-5 Fisherman's Croft, 4-1 On The Hooch, 6-1 Warwick Suite, 10-1 Pit Pony, 12-1 Go Crazy, 16-1 others.

Results from yesterday's four meetings

Sandown Park

(Going: good to firm (ch): good (hdles))

2.0 (2m hdle) 1, ABBOTTS VIEW (P Scudamore, 7-1); 2, Bourbon Spirit (M Richards, 11-8 fav); 3, Yaboyaa (R Rowe, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Musclebon (9th), 10 Dudley, 12 Major Effort, 20 Cachepenny (4th), 33 Kenwood Jack, 50 Ocean Link, Quick Rapor, Turpin's Green (4th), Monastic. 12 ran. NR: Castle Orchard. 8l, ¾l, 4l, dead heat, 8l. C Brooks at Lambourn. Tote: £8.00; £1.50, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £5.80. CSF: £14.62.

2.35 (2m 4f 66yd) 1, OKEETEE (B de Haan); 2, Power Punch (R Rowe, 12-1); 3, Golden Fox (M Perrett, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 2 Party Politics (4th), 12 Running Sands (f), 25 Foxcopse (6th), 33 Runnible (5th), 50 Little Hornhead (pu). 8 ran. 5l, 4l, 20l, 12l, 8l. C Brooks at Lambourn. Tote: £2.00; £1.20, £2.00, £1.40. DF: £8.90. CSF: £13.73.

3.5 (2m 119yd ch) 1, THE ARGONAUT (Mr G Oxley, 5-2); 2, Sea Ovac (Maj M Watson, 12-1); 3, Darten Ri (Mr J Wingfield Digby, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Bob Tisdall (ro), 11-4 Roscoe Harvey (ur), 16 Canoe Glass (ur), 25 Polo Boy, 50 Erins Dancer (pu), Grand Inquisitor (4th), High Ridge (6th), Kevin Evans (ur), Young Driver (5th). 12 ran. 15l, 5l, 5l, dist, 1l. F Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £3.40; £1.20, £2.60, £3.70. DF: £21.20. CSF: £38.27.

3.40 (2m 5f 76yd hdle) 1, BATTALION (P Scudamore, 2-1 fav Wanderer's nap); 2, Cowarth Park (D Murphy, 11-1); 3, Little Tara (M Lynch, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Record Flight (5th), 8 Reggae Yeomen, 10 Master Barn, 11 Jamaica, 14 Nodforms Dilemma (4th), Eskimo Nell, 20 The Proposer, 33 Staghound (5th), 40 Alcatraz, 100 Colleen (pu). 13 ran. hd, 8l, 2½l, 2l, ¾l. C Brooks at Lambourn. Tote: £2.70; £1.50, £3.40, £2.40. DF: £16.20. CSF: £28.83. Tricast: £125.63. After an objection by the second and a stewards inquiry the result stands.

4.10 (3m 116yd ch) 1, FATHER BRADY (Mr J Greenall, 3-1); 2, De Rivesel (Mr J Trice Rogers, 10-1); 3, Dream Joker (Mr Nevitor Leyland, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5 Killeen Lad, 13-2 Cockaoo (4th), 16 Lem American (6th), 40 Alsayegh (pu), 50 Easy Steed (5th), Yimkin Gold (ur). 9 ran. NK, 20l, 15l, 2½l, 25l. J Greenall at Lullington. Tote: £3.40; £1.40, £1.70, £1.10. DF: £17.20. CSF: £30.78.

4.40 (2m hdle) 1, TILDARG (J Osborne, 11-8 fav); 2, Acre Hill (R Dunwoody, 11-4); 3, The Artful Rascal (E Murphy, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Ridway (6th), 10 No Bonus, 14 Charlton Yeoman, 20 Kentish Piper, 50 Around And About, Cut Above Average (pu), Bodine Swanage (6th), Jover Jack, Baby Fern, Arnold Do (pu), Lunesoaring, Merle Swift, Sheiymem, Tocherka (4th). Village Princess. 18 ran. 3l, 12l, 3l, 1l, 1½l. O Sherwood at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £2.70; £1.70, £1.80, £2.80. DF: £3.50. CSF: £5.47.

Jackpot: £3,535.10. Placepot: £17.40.

Carlisle

(Going: soft (heavy patches))

2.0 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Fakaw Economy (T Morgan, 9-1); 2, Tribal Ruler (8-1); 3, Bellpoise (33-1). Chertsum Hoists 5-11 fav. 18 ran. 8l, 8l. J Edwards. Tote: £9.60; £2.30, £4.80, £18.90. DF: £89.20. CSF: £74.78.

2.30 (3m ch) 1, Super Fountain (B Storey, 3-1 fav); 2, Tartan Tempest (9-2); 3, Parson's Cross (7-1). 14 ran. 1½l, 4l. F Walton. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £2.10, £4.00. DF: £13.80. CSF: £18.08.

3.0 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Comet (C Grant, 9-4 fav); 2, Better Times Ahead (15-1); 3, Rambo Castle (100-30). 8 ran. ½l, hd. Denys Smith. Tote: £3.80; £1.80, £2.50, £1.10. DF: £21.70. CSF: £30.05.

3.30 (2m ch) 1, Hotplate (M Dwyer, 10-11 fav); 2, Rebora's Lad (15-2); 3, Maencoe (11-2). 5 ran. 6l, 3l. D McCain. Tote: £1.80; £1.40, £4.00. DF: £5.30. CSF: £5.89.

4.0 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Garleen Boy (R Supple, 7-1); 2, Marcellina (7-1); 3, Pondered Big (20-1); 4, Musical Mystery (9-2 jt-fav). Candlebright 9-2 jt-fav. 18 ran. ½l, 8l. J J O'Neill. Tote: £21.60; £2.90, £2.50, £3.30, £1.90. DF: £209.60. CSF: £52.64. Tricast: £1,060.39.

4.30 (3m 2f ch) 1, Couture Color (D Shaw, 10-1); 2, Weirpool (7-2); 3, Rivermot (2-1 jt-fav). See You There 2-1 jt-fav. 5 ran. 15l, 5l. J Mackie. Tote: £11.20; £2.10, £2.10. DF: £12.80. CSF: £37.38.

5.0 (2m 1f 110yd flat) 1, Pedaventure (R Hodge, 10-1); 2, Gymrak Dawn (5-2 fav); 3, Linn Falls (33-1). 21 ran. NR: Messors Way. 1½l, 12l. Mrs G Reveley. Tote: £8.00; £2.70, £1.20, £22.50. DF: £27.90. CSF: £37.68.

Placepot: £276.30.

Market Rasen

(Going: good)

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, Jessie Pate (M Brennan, 10-1); 2, Kosciusko (11-8 fav); 3, Worldsoomfyer (20-1). 12 ran. 2l, ½l. J Bandell. Tote: £8.40; £1.70, £1.50, £2.40. DF: £4.40. CSF: £23.75. Bought in 3,000gns.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, Market Leader (R Greene, 9-4); 2, Mr Quick (13-8 fav); 3, Dunsoor Boy (11-4). 5 ran. 1l, 1l. R Lee. Tote: £2.80; £1.60, £1.80. DF: £2.60. CSF: £5.83.

3.15 (3m ch) 1, Glass Mountain (G McCourt, 5-2); 2, Some Do Not (5-1); 3, Feels Head (50-1). Bit Of A Clown 9-4 fav. 12 ran. 4l, 5l. G Moore. Tote: £3.10; £1.20, £2.40, £22.90. DF: £8.60. CSF: £14.99.

3.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Royal Gossip (L Harvey, 5-1); 2, James My Boy (5-4 fav); 3, Haddon Lad (10-1). 5 ran. NR: Sweet City. 2l, sh hd. Mrs I McKie. Tote: £4.40; £2.50, £1.30. DF: £5.80. CSF: £10.98.

4.20 (2m hdle) 1, Island Jetsetter (L Wyer, 11-2); 2, Basic Fun (8-1); 3, Needield (4-1). Logaminno 2-6 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, ¾l. M H Easterby. Tote: £4.90; £1.40, £1.70, £1.20. DF: £13.40. CSF: £46.40.

4.50 (2m 5f ch) 1, The Demon Barber (G McCourt, 5-2); 2, Mountebor (4-7 fav); 3, Gee-A (6-1). 4 ran. 1½l, 1l. G Richards. Tote: £3.40. DF: £1.80. CSF: £4.18.

5.15 (1m 4f flat) 1, Going On (B McGill, 15-2); 2, Spruzer (12-1); 3, Comme Ci Comme Ca (6-1). Searcher 2-1 fav. 19 ran. NR: Takaaberry. 1l, 2½l. Miss S Hall. Tote: £27.00; £2.40, £4.10, £1.60. DF: £37.60. Placepot: £86.60.

Lingfield Park

(Going: standard)

1.40 (3m hdle) 1, Brave Star (D Murphy, 8-1); 2, Storm Warrior (2-4 fav); 3, Poona (33-1). 8 ran. NR: Mr Carbonicus. ½l, 12l. P Mitchell. Tote: £8.20; £1.30, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £10.20. CSF: £26.78. Tricast: £71.01.

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Take Issue (Dale McKeown, 5-4 fav); 2, Forcello (12-1); 3, Kremlin Guard (7-2). 9 ran. 8l, 2l. J Sutcliffe. Tote: £5.10; £1.50, £1.60, £1.50. DF: £16.50. CSF: £19.96.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, The Lighter Side (A Juckes, 10-11 fav); 2, Horsham (7-2); 3, The Brickin (20-1). 5 ran. ¾l, 30l. B Preece. Tote: £1.60; £1.70, £1.80. DF: £3.10. CSF: £4.44.

3.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Milton Boyes (I Shoemark, 4-9 fav); 2, Paramius (6-1); 3, Camdore Boy (50-1). 4 ran. 10l, dist. J Fitch-Heyes. Tote: £1.30. DF: £1.30. CSF: £4.14.

3.40 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Go Robbey (P Barnard, 4-6 fav); 2, Listago (11-4); 3, Cougar (33-1). 7 ran. NR: Friendly Coast. 12l, 2l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.30. DF: £2.20. CSF: £2.88.

4.10 (1m 3f flat) 1, Greenbelle Warrior (J Ryan, 1-2 fav); 2, Dancing North (20-1); 3, Royal Banner (6-1). 8 ran. 15l, sh hd. M Ryan. Tote: £1.60; £1.00, £2.40, £2.20. DF: £9.70. CSF: £14.21. NR: Amadeba. Placepot: £4.30

Blinkered first time

LINGFIELD PARK: 2.40 Go Rabbit-Go.

Alkinor Rex poised to retrieve losses on favoured ground

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

In selecting **Vault** (1.30), **Romany King** (2.0) and **Alkinor Rex** (2.30) to win the three televised races at Chepstow today, I am staying loyal to horses that I napped to win last time out but who, for one reason or another, failed to run up to expectations.

While conceding that making excuses for beaten horses is the quickest way to the poor house, I do think that Alkinor Rex deserves to be given another chance in the valuable Crown Berger Hurdle to confirm the excellent impression that he created at Windsor first time out when he won by 15 lengths.

On that occasion the ground was very soft, and that is a must as far as he is concerned.

To the dismay of his trainer Merrick Francis and jockey Mark Richards, the going had dried out far too much by the time he came to contest his next race at Kempton. In the circumstances, he still ran well to finish third behind Stratford Ponds and Gaasid.

With the ground at Chepstow certain to be to his liking again this afternoon, Alkinor Rex is napped to pick up the winning thread.

But with the redoubtable Jenny Pitman saddling both Ri-Na-Rithann and Run To Form, he will have to be at his very best to do it.

Nor are they the only dangers. Mistral Story ran a race that was brimful of promise behind Forest Sun first time out, while former Flat racer Belmoredean could run a big race on this his jumping debut.


Mark Richards: teams up again with Alkinor Rex

A win for the ex-Irish mare Megabucks, though, would entail a big turnaround on her Kempton form with Alkinor Rex.

Vault is taken to win the Swish Hurdle in the belief that he would have won, or gone very close to winning, a similar race at Newbury last Saturday had he not misjudged the second-last hurdle and fallen.

In the circumstances Vault looks a good bet to retrieve the losses at the expense of Tri Folene and Gay Ruffian, who were involved in a close finish at Haydock back in November.

Winning the Amdega Novices' Handicap Chase on Romany King would give Toby Balding's young jockey Richard Guest a much-needed shot in the arm just four days before his coveted ride on Beech Road in the Champion Hurdle.

After he had been beaten on Romany King at Ludlow nine days ago, Guest came in for a fair amount of criticism from a body of professional opinion which considered that he had lain too far out of his ground and ridden an ill-judged race. Whatever the reason, Romany King was flying at the finish.

At Sandown Park, those who intend backing the Irish challenger Joyful Noise to win the William Hill Imperial Cup should be mindful of the fact that the ground will be much faster than anything that he has encountered for a long while.

It was heavy going when he was a close second to Deep Sensation in the Tote Gold Trophy last time. On that form alone, he certainly has nothing to fear from Afaristoun, Ambassador, Rampallion or Moody Man, who were all behind.

In this instance, though, I am more inclined to take a chance with **Bradbury Star** who will love the fast going.

The winner of four races in a row in the autumn, Bradbury Star has enjoyed a well-deserved rest since being beaten 2½ lengths by the smart Cash Is King at Kempton just after Christmas.

DONCASTER

Selections
By Mandarin

2.15 Fiery Sun. 2.45 Master Eryl. 3.15 Babil. 3.45 Firm Price. 4.15 Austhorpe Sunset. 4.45 Vulrory's Clown. 5.15 Tommy Owt.

Brian Beel's selection: 2.45 Some Obligation.

Going: good to firm (chase course), good (hurdles)

2.15 FEDERATION BREWERY LEGEND LA SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,772: 2m 150yd) (15 runners)

1 8010 ALI MOURAD 18 (B,D,F) C Smith 5-11-10 ... J Railton (3)
2 5330 HIGH ALOFT 25 (B,D,S) T Casey 6-11-6 ... J Short
3 5136 FIERY SUN 8 (V,D,F) G Oldroyd 5-11-6 ... R Garritty (5)
4 0430 RUSHLUAN 46 R Hodges 8-11-5 ... W Irvine (3)
5 1300 THIN RED LINE 22 (V,D,BF,S) J Jenkins 6-11-4 ... —
6 0-P0 STUMBLE 21 (D,G) J Mackie 6-11-3 ... C Hawkins
7 2223 GENERAL SILKY 8 P Davis 5-11-1 ... Tanya Davis
8 P-00 KING OF SAILORS 18F R Thompson 6-10-12 M Brennan
9 0P00 CHICO VALDEZ 43 (CD,F) M Chapman 6-10-10 W Worthington
10 -004 SUSAN HENCHARD 4 M Avison 6-10-10 J Callaghan (5)
11 004 CALAHONDA BAY 9 A James 5-10-8 ... E Tierney (7)
12 4533 MESHRARF 22 Miss S Wilton 4-10-7 ... —
13 40P6 TIGER TIGER 28 Ronald Thompson 5-10-4 M Leese (7)
14 8U54 BREEZY SAILOR 65F R Thompson 4-10-6 ... A Carroll
15 00-0 INDIAN SET 17 J Edwards 6-10-8 ... D Tegg

7-2 General Silky, 4-1 Meshrarf, 6-1 Thin Red Line, 8-1 Breezy Sailor, Indian Set, 12-1 Chico Valdez, 14-1 others.

2.45 FEDERATION BREWERY SPECIAL ALE HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,900: 3m 122yd) (6)

1 150- TARTEVIE 381 (D,F,S) Maj M Sample 12-12-2 Maj M Sample (7)
2 /3-P ABLE SAILOR 15 (D,G,S) C Smith 10-11-10 M Ranger (7)
3 1 MASTER ERYL 14 (C,F) Mrs R Gulding 7-11-10 M Sheppard (7)
4 00P2 RISK ANOTHER 22 Mrs W Tullie 7-11-10 J Grossick (7)
5 -PP4 TRUE HOLLOW 7 Mrs P Pile 8-11-10 ... M Pell (7)
6 F1 SOME OBLIGATION 5 (S) J Upson 5-11-0 D Costello (5)

5-4 Some Obligation, 9-4 Master Eryl, 4-1 Tartevie, 6-1 Risk Another, 10-1 Able Sailor, 33-1 True Hollow.

3.15 FEDERATION BREWERY LEGEND BITTER NOVICES HURDLE (£2,192: 2m 4f) (22)

1 2110 BABIL 21 (D,G,S) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-6 ... J Lower
2 0110 GENERAL HIGHWAY 10 (D,S) J Chugg 7-11-5 J Short
3 4106 INTO THE RED 8 (S) C Tristine 6-11-5 J Callaghan (5)
4 2000 SMOOTH START 7 (F) A James 5-11-5 ... E Tierney (7)
5 -364 CAIRNCASTLE 47 J White 5-11-0 ... —
6 P- EVEN WAVES 302 N Blatchley 8-11-0 ... P Leech
7 -422 GLEN FINTAIG 21 A Bailey 5-11-0 ... A Carroll
8 26SP KARAKTER REFERENCE 53 (F) L Cobett 8-11-0 I Shoemark (5)
9 00-0 MARINERS LAW 23 Miss G Rees 7-11-0 W Worthington
10 F/0F MONASTIC CALM 9 P Davis 6-11-0 ... Tanya Davis
11 2363 PRINCE CELTIC 8 (S) W Clay 6-11-0 ... R Bevan (7)
12 0-02 RYTON RUN 22 (BF) Mrs D Haine 5-11-0 ... V Smith (5)
13 30R SWEETING 37 J White 5-11-0 ... —
14 334- TAFTAZANI 287F R Holder 5-11-0 ... P Richards
15 2000 TEE OU 39 (F) J King 5-11-0 ... —
16 BU0 TOP D'OR 21 (S) G Moore 5-11-0 ... M Brennan
17 U0U4 YACHT CLUB 14 J Eyre 8-11-0 ... Mr P McMahon
18 68 FIRST LORD 66 Mrs V Aconley 4-10-5 ... J Corkell (7)
19 0000 MO ICHI DO 19 Miss S Wilton 4-10-5 ... —
20 4000 MR DORMOUSE 18 (V) C W C Elsey 4-10-5 S Keightley
21 0041 DONNA DEL LAGO 33 (F) T Casey 4-10-0 J A McCarthy (7)
22 P0 ENERGIA 7 P Blockley 4-10-0 ... —

2-1 Babil, 4-1 General Highway, 6-1 Cairncastle, 10-1 Mr Dormouse, 12-1 Yacht Club, 14-1 Into The Red, 16-1 others.

3.45 FEDERATION BREWERY NOVICES CHASE (Qualifier: £2,758: 3m 122yd) (7)

1 4172 FIRM PRICE 33 (CD,F,G) J Edwards 9-11-8 ... D Tegg
2 4145 GAMESMANSHIP 21 (D,G) R Hanop 9-11-8 P McDermott (7)
3 8843 BEL COURSE 14 (D,F,G,S) J McConnochie 8-11-4 ... —
4 F-PP KORFI 23 (B) F Yardley 8-11-4 ... P Richards
5 30-0 LORD IT OVER 18F (F) M Chapman 7-11-4 ... —
6 P10P CROGHAN STAR 10 (CD,F) J Dooler 9-11-3 W Worthington
7 460P WISCONSIN 7 (F) M Chapman 6-10-13 ... C Ryan (7)

4-5 Firm Price, 5-2 Bel Course, 6-1 Croghan Star, 10-1 Gamesmanship, 16-1 Korfi, 33-1 others.

4.15 FEDERATION BREWERY LCL PILS LAGER HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,522: 2m 150yd) (17)

1 -100 AUSTHORPE SUNSET 31 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs R Wharton 6-12-0 J Callaghan (5)
2 0110 FOUJITA 17 (D,F,G,S) Miss S Wilton 5-11-9
3 PV0U SHERWOOD GUNNER 17 (D,BF,G,S) O Brennan 8-11-9 M Brennan
4 1100 SKOLERN 43 (D,F,G) Mrs P Barker 6-11-0 C Hawkins
5 3213 HILL BEAGLE 22 (D,F,S) W Clay 10-10-11 R Bevan (7)
6 8340 UNPAID MEMBER 21 (D,F) P Blockley 6-10-7 ... —
7 0300 CLEAR CALL 15 (D,G,F,S) J Edwards 6-10-7 ... D Tegg
8 0438 MACARTHUR 21 (D,F,G) M W Easterby 5-10-7 R Marley
9 0041 MUSICAL MYSTERY 21 (D,S) M Avison 8-10-7 R Garritty (5)
10 1-00 BILLION MELODY 53 (D,F) A Jones 8-10-4 Miss D Jones
11 2364 HOT COMPANY 28 (D,BF,G) P Bevan 5-10-4 J Lodder (5)
12 13-0 KON COMTAT 81 (D,F) T Kersey 6-10-1 Susan Kersey (7)
13 -000 COUNTRY CARNIVAL 25 (D,S) J Johnson 7-10-1 A Orkney
14 0000 GREENHILLS PRIDE 53 (D,S) H Collingridge 6-10-0 V Smith (5)
15 2300 REEF PATRICK 10 (D,F) J Dooler 5-10-0 W Worthington
16 /60- UPTOWN RANDBS 460 (D,F) T Kersey 7-10-0 ... —
17 PP60 DAUNTING PROSPECT 36 (D,S) M Chapman 5-10-0 N Smith (7)

5-1 Foujita, 13-2 Sherwood Gunner, 7-1 Musical Mystery, 8-1 Macarthur, 10-1 Austhorpe Sunset, 12-1 others.

4.45 FEDERATION BREWERY PALE ALE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,947: 2m 4f) (4)

1 3211 VULRORY'S CLOWN 42 (CD,F,G,S) O Brennan 12-11-10 M Brennan
2 -072 JAUNTER 55 (D,G,S) W Holden 10-10-5 ... W Irvine (3)
3 6540 COLONEL POPSKI 28 (F,S) Miss G Rees 9-10-0 W Worthington
4 3443 DUNSTALL 57 (D,F,G,S) B Morgan 13-10-0 N Coleman

Evens Vulrory's Clown, 6-4 Jaunter, 6-1 Dunstall, 20-1 Colonel Popski.

5.15 FINNINGLEY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,696: 2m 150yd) (15)

1 COMEDY SPY Mrs A Heath 6-11-10 ... —
2 0 LEARNED STAR 125 J Eyre 5-11-10 ... A Hixon (7)
3 SAUNTERSON O Brennan 5-11-10 ... Helen Brennan (7)
4 2 TOMMY OWT 17 M Camacho 5-11-10 ... J Callaghan (5)
5 APPLIED SIGNS B Morgan 5-11-5 ... C Prince (7)
6 0-0 COBBLERS CROSS 82 R Peacock 5-11-5 Gary Lyons (5)
7 26 POP ABROAD 22 P Bevan 5-11-5 ... J Lodder (5)
8 ASARGAR Mrs G Jones 4-11-2 ... Mr C Farrell (7)
9 COLONIAL LORD Mrs S Bramall 4-11-2 Mr C Farrell (7)
10 0 KELYCROFT 7 N Bycroft 4-11-2 ... N Smith (7)
11 0 LAKINON 32 Mrs E Heath 4-11-2 ... P Barnard (7)
12 ZACTOO B Preece 4-11-2 ... A Jenkins (7)
13 PANTER LASS Mrs A Ratcliff 4-10-11 ... V Smith (5)
14 PERENELLA T Bill 4-10-11 ... J Railton (3)
15 SABOIA'S PRIDE J Solcoutey 4-10-11 ... R Garritty (5)

2-1 Tommy Owt, 5-1 Cobblers Cross, 6-1 Pop Abroad, 8-1 Saunterson, 10-1 Colonial Lord, Learned Star, 12-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: J Edwards, 9 winners from 38 runners, 23.7%; O Brennan, 4 from 26, 15.4%. (Only qualifiers).

JOCKEYS: Gary Lyons, 3 winners from 17 rides, 17.6%; R Marley, 4 from 27, 14.8%. (Only qualifiers).

LINGFIELD PARK

Selections
By Mandarin

1.40 Premier Dance. 2.10 Bronze Cross. 2.40 Langtry Lady. 3.10 Bifocal. 3.40 Go Dutch. 4.10 Altobelli.

Going: standard
Draw: 7f-1m, low numbers best

1.40 ASPINALL'S CURZON CLUB MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,499: 1m) (12)

1 00-3 COLSAN BOY 28 M Usher 9-0 ... M Marshall (5) 1
2 DERAILED M Johnston 9-0 ... R P Elliott 7
3 3-42 GENTLE SATIN 45 P Mitchell 9-0 ... S O'Gorman (5) 3
4 30-5 KINGS ALDERMAN 23 (BF) W Musson 9-0 M Wigham 8
5 40- LITTLE BIG 128 R Boss 9-0 ... L Dettori 9
6 300- LUCKY FROSTY 142 P Kelleway 9-0 ... A Munro (3) 4
7 0-2 OFF THE WALL 9 W Hastings-Bass 9-0 Dean McKeown 11
8 30-2 PREMIER DANCE 9 D Haydn Jones 9-0 .. J Williams 12
9 4- TYRIAN PRINCE 295 P Cole 9-0 ... T Quinn 5
10 UNTITLED J Hills 9-0 ... N Perry (7) 2
11 50-3 FALLOW DEER 23 B Hills 8-9 ... D Holland (7) 6
12 4-63 LADY GRENVILLE 16 M Usher 8-9 ... A Whitehall 10

3-1 Fallow Deer, 4-1 Gentle Satin, 5-1 Premier Dance, 6-1 Little Big, 7-1 Kings Alderman, 8-1 Tyrian Prince, 10-1 others.

2.10 ANDREW LOVE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,700: 7f) (16)

1 1816 BRONZE CROSS 7 (D,G) T Barron 5-8-7 Alex Greaves (5) 13
2 000- PITSEA 112 (F) R Hannon 4-8-7 ... B Rouse 11
3 4521 SUPREME BLUES 7 (B,D) M Brittain 4-8-2 S Maloney (5) 14
4 -232 TAKDEER 16 (C,S) W O'Gorman 4-8-2 ... A Munro (3) 5
5 0063 COUNT ME OUT 9 (B,CD,F) R Hoad 5-9-1 S Whitworth 6
6 001- MAJOR JACKO 122 (D,S) R Hannon 7-9-0 R Perham (7) 8
7 53-4 JUST JENNINGS 9 (F) D Haydn Jones 5-8-12 S O'Gorman (5) 1
8 4551 MASTER TYKE 9 (CD,G) R Hoad 5-8-12 ... T Quinn 16
9 500- SAALIB 164 Pat Mitchell 7-8-11 ... Julie Bowker (5) 3
10 0-40 EMMA TOM BAY 18 (V) Mrs B Waring 5-8-10 N Howe 12
11 -032 CREE BAY 37 (F,G,S) J Spearing 11-8-9 ... C Rutter 9
12 -000 RESTLESS RHAPSODY 9 (B,F,G) J O'Shea 7-8-9 R Wernham 15
13 0-40 SNOW WONDER 9 P Howling 4-8-7 ... W Newnes 7
14 0000 BET OLIVER 18 D Jenny 7-8-6 ... S Wood (5) 4
15 -520 MISS KILPATRICK 18 D Jenny 4-8-6 ... N Adams 10
16 00-4 SISTER CHERYL 9 (F) R Frost 5-8-6 ... M Hunt (7) 2

7-2 Bronze Cross, 9-2 Takdeer, 5-1 Just Jennings, 6-1 Major Jacko, 8-1 Supreme Blues, 10-1 Cree Bay, 12-1 others.

2.40 ASPINALL'S CURZON CLUB & BARRACUDA CLUB HANDICAP (£5,071: 1m) (11)

1 1111 MERSEYSIDE MAN 14 (V,CD,F) J Scargill 4-10-0 K Rutter (7) 5
2 040- JADEITE 172 (D,F) R Boss 4-9-10 ... B Raymond 3
3 04-1 LANGTRY LADY 7 (D,G) M Ryan 4-9-10 N Gwilliams (5) 8
4 3321 RAPPORTEUR 4 (C) C Elsey 4-9-7 (6ex) S Wood (5) 10
5 320- TAUBER 86 (C,F,G,S) Pat Mitchell 6-9-6 S O'Gorman (5) 4
6 3-05 CONCIDENTAL 40 (C,F,G,S) D Morris 8-9-3 M Tebbutt 7
7 4303 BEECHWOOD COTTAGE 7 (B,CD,F,G,S) A Bailey 7-8-2 Melody Town (7) 1
8 3220 PAYVASHOOZ 7 (F,S) M Brittain 5-9-6 S Maloney (5) 9
9 400- ALBERT'S WAY OUT 157 (S) S Dow 4-7-11 C Campbell (7) 6
10 000-0 GO RABALL GO 65 (V,F,G) C Allen 4-7-10 F Norton (7) 2
11 600-3 LONDON STANDARD 9 P Mitchell 5-7-7 ... M Fry 11

7-2 Merseyside Man, 4-1 Langtry Lady, 5-1 Rapporteur, 6-1 Payvashooz, 7-1 Beechwood Cottage, 8-1 others.

3.10 TOMMY LLOYD HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,453: 1m 2f) (11)

1 1 PRIOR CHARGE 23 (C) Pat Mitchell 9-7 S O'Gorman (5) 5
2 6-1 WARM FEELING 46 (CD) B Hills 9-7 ... M Hills 6
3 26-1 MARJONS BOY 14 (CD) M Bell 9-5 ... A Clark 9
4 4-11 BIFOCAL 32 (CD) R Akehurst 9-2 ... T Quinn 1
5 64-1 SALMON SPARKLE 63 (B) P Walwyn 9-0 B Raymond 7
6 41 MATHEMA 7 M Prescott 9-0 ... G Duffield 4
7 0-01 LINGFIELD LASS 14 (CD) W Musson 8-9. M Wigham 3
8 5242 KILDONAN 14 (F) T Barron 8-9 .... Alex Greaves (5) 11
9 6-03 HEAD GROOM 16 (B) J Bethell 7-7 Kim McDonnell (7) 8
10 080- MR CHEEKYCHOPS 151 M Brittain 7-7 ... S Wood (5) 2
11 -423 EQUINOR 14 R Bennett 7-7 ... N Adams 10

4-1 Bifocal, 9-2 Warm Feeling, 5-1 Mathema, 6-1 Lingfield Lass, 8-1 Kildonan, Marjons Boy, 9-1 Prior Charge, 10-1 others.

3.40 BARRACUDA CLUB HANDICAP (£3,184: 7f) (13)

1 3132 SOLOMON'S SONG 2 (CD,F,S) M Johnston 4-8-10 R P Elliott 2
2 4101 MY PAL POPEYE 9 (C,F) P Mitchell 5-8-6 S O'Gorman (5) 13
3 00-5 AL SHANY 18 (S) W Carter 4-8-4 ... B Raymond 11
4 35-1 GO DUTCH 16 (D) C Nelson 3-9-4 ... N Adams 4
5 218- ASTRID GILBERTO 194 (F) P Howling 3-8-8 W Newnes 6
6 3226 LOOTING 9 (C,BF,F,S) R O'Sullivan 4-8-12 Dean McKeown 10
7 352- KIRSTIE GIRL 329 (S) D Haydn Jones 3-8-7 J Williams 1
8 6743 SMALL FEE 3 (B) M Brittain 5-8-7 ... S Maloney (5) 8
9 6015 CHAMPION GIRL 9 (B,F) A Bailey 4-8-0 Wendy Buxton (7) 9
10 3339 HACKFORTH 18 (C,D,F) J Bethell 4-8-0 ... T Quinn 12
11 00-0 FREDDIE'S STAR 39 (D,F) R Bennett 3-7-12 S Wood (5) 7
12 280- BALLAPORT 136 (F) J Bosley 5-7-8 ... J Quinn 5
13 6-05 GREY RUM 9 (B,D,F,G) W Pearce 5-7-7 ... N Carlisle 3

3-1 My Pal Popeye, 4-1 Go Dutch, 6-1 Small Fee, 7-1 Grey Rum, 8-1 Al Shany, 10-1 Solomon's Song, 12-1 others.

4.10 PAUL BATES HANDICAP (£2,469: 1m 5f) (10)

1 6-41 REGGAE BEAT 9 (C,F) I Campbell 5-10-0 ... M Fry 1
2 020- MOMSER 122 M Ryan 4-9-7 ... J Ryan (5) 4
3 -422 CATHOS 9 (B,BF,S) J Old 5-9-6 ... B Raymond 5
4 5-00 ARROW DANCER 9 R O'Sullivan 4-9-4 Dean McKeown 8
5 454- SIMPLY SWELL 121 (B) John FitzGerald 4-9-0 R Hills 2
6 5121 ALTOBELLI 9 (C,F) P Mitchell 6-8-11 S O'Gorman (5) 3
7 100- DUAL CAPACITY 136 (F,G) W Musson 6-8-7 M Wigham 9
8 0/0 SNAPSHOT BABY 28 R Voorspuy 5-7-7 C Campbell (7) 10
9 -300 TROJAN DEBUT 9 M Ryan 4-7-7 ... F Norton (7) 7
10 00-0 FLYING ROOFER 9 J Roberts 4-7-7 ... S Maloney (5) 6

11-4 Reggae Beat, 3-1 Altobelli, 4-1 Cathos, 6-1 Simply Swell, 7-1 Dual Capacity, 10-1 Trojan Debut, 14-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: M Johnston, 3 winners from 11 runners, 27.3%; R Boss, 13 from 50, 26.0%; W O'Gorman, 9 from 38, 23.7%; J Scargill, 4 from 17, 23.5%; C C Elsey, 3 from 15, 20.0%; R O'Sullivan, 5 from 26, 19.2%.

JOCKEYS: K Rutter, 4 winners from 7 rides, 57.1%; S O'Gorman, 9 from 37, 24.3%; L Dettori, 7 from 34, 20.6%; G Duffield, 14 from 92, 15.2%; T Quinn, 31 from 208, 14.9%; S Wood, 4 from 29, 13.8%.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections
By Mandarin

2.00 Springholm.
2.30 Swift Waters.
3.00 Wonder Bee.
3.35 Baies.
4.10 Bradbury Star.
4.40 Boutzdaroff.
4.40 Cokenny Boy.
5.10 Appleton.

By Michael Seely
2.30 Swift Waters. 4.10 JOYFUL NOISE (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.10 JOYFUL NOISE.

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 18 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

Going: good to firm (chase course); good, back straight good to firm (hurdles)

2.0 DICK McCREERY CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,031: 2m 18yd) (6 runners)

101 4-22224 SPRINGHOLM 59 (D,F,G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 8-12-0 ... J Wingfield-Digby (7) ● 99
102 110-330 KILBRITTAIN CASTLE 23 (CD,F,G,S) (W Whitbread) F Walwyn 14-11-10 ... G Oxley (7) 98
103 222142- EIGHT SPRINGS 286 (D,BF,F,G) (B Munro-Wilson) J Jenkins 9-11-1 ... — 90
104 122102 RINGMORE 17 (D,F,G) (W Sellars) J Parkes 8-10-7 ... J Beardsall (7) 97
105 0000-11 AMARI KING 48 (D,S) (M Ward-Thomas) T Forster 8-10-7 ... M Ward Thomas (7) 92
106 0000/PP CHILL SKY 53 (T Kersey) T Kersey 8-10-7 ... — —

Long handicap: Ringmore 10-0, Amari King 9-6, Chill Sky 8-2.

BETTING: 2-1 Ringmore, 3-1 Kilbrittain Castle, 5-2 Springholm, Amari King, 6-1 Eight Springs, 25-1 Chill Sky.

1989: KILBRITTAIN CASTLE 13-11-3 G Oxley (4-7 fav) F Walwyn 3 ran

2.30 SELECT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,601: 2m) (6 runners)

201 311 SWIFT WATERS 9 (D,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 11-10 ... M Bowlby 94
202 0102 SAGAMAN 15 (D,G) (N Boyer) L Codd 11-7 ... S Turner 97
203 0121 PUNCHBAG 24 (S) (Hubbard Animal Feed Supplements Ltd) G Ham 11-4 ... B Powell 94
204 446300 IVYCHURCH 30 (J Joseph) J Joseph 10-6 ... A Jones 96
205 6330 BOLD CHOICE 14 (J Joseph) J Joseph 10-6 ... S Smith Eccles ● 99
206 540P2 FAMILLE 23 (D Mill) D Bell 10-0 ... J Duggan 90

Long handicap: Famille 9-11.

BETTING: 15-8 Swift Waters, 9-4 Punchbag, 4-1 Ivychurch, 15-2 Bold Choice, 12-1 Sagaman, 16-1 Famille.

1989: DEEP SENSATION 4-11-12 R Rowe (5-2 fav) J Gifford 15 ran

3.0 BARCLAYS BANK HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateurs: £3,670: 2m) (10 runners)

C 4

301 P1P-P HYPNOTIC 15 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Corbett) F Walwyn 10-11-11 ... G Oxley (7) —
302 113U54 GOWAN HOUSE 53 (F,G,S) (R Ogden) N Gaselee 11-11-7 ... A Ogden (7) —
303 45-U/63 WONDER BEE 17 (D,F,S) (White Horse Racing) D Elsworth 7-11-7 .. D Naylor-Leyland (7) ● 99
304 702114- LYNEBORE 285 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Lady Cadogan) T Forster 8-11-6 ... C Sample (5) 90
305 221U3 BEAU GUEST 17 (D,BF,F,G) (W Sellars) J Parkes 8-11-2 ... J Beardsall (7) 94
306 3365 FORCED MARCH 60 (J Kinnear) G Balding 8-10-11 ... S Ballard (7) 96
307 F-3F022 WESTMANS WAGON 46 (D,G,S) (Ed Westman Ltd) B McMahon 6-10-7 .. Maj C Lane (7) 92
308 600P-05 DONOSTI 22 (Lady R Stuart-Wortley-Hunt) Miss L Bower 6-10-7 Capt C Ward-Thomas (7) —
309 00003-P DWALE 25 (Mrs K Lilley) R Eckley 5-10-7 ... J Wingfield-Digby (7) 91
310 060033 DREADNOUGHT 17 (D,S) (J Carden) J Carden 10-10-7 ... J Carden (7) 82

Long handicap: Westmans Wagon 10-4, Donosti 9-2, Dwale 8-11, Dreadnought 8-6.

BETTING: 5-2 Wonder Bee, 7-2 Beau Guest, 5-1 Westmans Wagon, 13-2 Forced March, 8-1 Lynebore, 10-1 Gowan House, Hypnotic, 12-1 others.

1989: OUT OF RANGE 6-11-3 D Naylor-Leyland (8-1) D Elsworth 11 ran

FORM FOCUS WONDER BEE showed improved form at Warwick (2m, soft) when 1l 2nd to Genoon. LYNEBORE won novice races at Catterick (2m) and at Newcastle (2m, good) last March beating Palm House 15l. BEAU GUEST has been novice chasing, finishing 3l 3rd to Famous Lad at Catterick (2m, good to soft) on latest start. FORCED MARCH, always prominent, 11l 6th of 17 to Lissahane Lass in novices' hurdle at Leicester (2m, good to soft). WESTMANS WAGON 18¾l 3rd to Thus Gold in a handicap at Nottingham (2m, soft). Previously 2¾l 2nd to Gunsen Boy in similar race at Haydock (2m, soft). DONOSTI will need to step up on 18l 5th to Operatic Score at Fakenham (2m 80yd, good).
Selection: WESTMANS WAGON

3.35 FOOD BROKERS ROYAL GAME HANDICAP CHASE (£4,406: 3m 118yd) (7 runners)

C 4

401 1123-14 BAIES 63 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs B Samuel) C Brooks 8-12-0 ... P Scudamore 97
402 41-1334 SWARDEAN 25 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs A Steele) R Lee 8-11-4 ... S Smith Eccles 95
403 36/0-50 DOOR LATCH 28 (CD,F,G,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 12-11-4 ... R Rowe —
404 F1-3P/1 SNEAKAPENNY 16 (G,S) (Mrs E Courage) M Wilkinson 8-10-11 ... M Lynch 97
405 3-6332 TARCONEY 32 (CD,G,S) (R Whitley) P Cazalet 10-10-5 ... R Strange 95
406 300046 MEMBERSON 8 (CD,F,G,S) (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 12-10-0 ... R Dunwoody ● 99
407 412122 ANNETTE'S VENTURE 22 (D,BF,F,G,S) (B Brown) B Stevens 8-10-0 ... B Powell 94

Long handicap: Memberson 9-7, Annette's Venture 9-3.

BETTING: 9-4 Baies, 11-4 Swardean, 5-1 Sneakapenny, 6-1 Tarconey, 15-2 Door Latch, 12-1 Memberson, Annette's Venture.

1989: MEMBERSON 11-11-3 R Dunwoody (6-1) P Dufosee 5 ran

FORM FOCUS BAIES one-paced 6¾l 4th to Cool Ground in the Anthony Mildmay, Peter Cazalet Memorial Chase here (3m 5f 18yd, good), with TARCONEY (1lb better off) 15l 5th. Previously ran well on seasonal reappearance to beat The Thinker sh hd at Haydock (3m, good to soft), with SWARDEAN (14lb better off) 29l 5th. SWARDEAN is yet to produce his best this season, finishing 34¾l 4th to The Wife on latest start at Catterick (3m 4f, good). SNEAKAPENNY was driven out to beat Canford Palm 4l on latest start at Folkestone (3m 2f, soft). TARCONEY had no extra close home over course and distance (good to soft), finishing creditable 1l 3rd to Highway Express, with MEMBERSON (3lb better off) 20l 4th. ANNETTE'S VENTURE was a disappointing favourite on latest start at Fakenham (3m, good), finishing 12¾l 3rd to Falls Na Hinne.
Selection: BAIES

4.10 WILLIAM HILL IMPERIAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE (Listed race: £16,050: 2m) (15 runners)

C 4

501 42-0142 JOYFUL NOISE 28 (D,S) (S Wood) A Moore (Ire) 7-11-10 ... T Taaffe ● 99
502 0-34040 AFARISTOUN 28 (D,F,G,S) (H Kaye) J Edwards 6-11-9 ... T Morgan 95
503 3-11F50 DARE SAY 74 (CD,F,G,S) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 7-11-8 ... R Rowe 95
504 4-11112 BRADBURY STAR 73 (C,D,BF,F,G) (J Campbell) J Gifford 5-11-7 ... — 93
505 134-06 PENNY FORUM 7 (B,G) (R Surridge) J Sutcliffe 6-11-7 ... Dale McKeown 90
506 110-600 OUT OF RANGE 28 (CD,G,S) (R Bastian) D Elsworth 7-11-5 ... G Bradley 95
507 32/1510 AMBASSADOR 28 (B,D,F,S) (Fairlord Confectioners Ltd) M Pipe 7-11-4 P Scudamore 81
508 2F22F4 NAHAR 73 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow 5-11-3 ... R Dunwoody 81
509 111323 MIDNIGHT STRIKE 126 (B,F,S) (R Payne) J Baker 6-11-1 ... W McFarland (3) 81
510 0111-55 WITHOUT A DOUBT 48 (D,S) (T Tate) T Tate 8-11-1 ... B McGill (5) 96
511 10-1184 MOODY MAN 28 (D,G,S) (J Burley) P Hobbs 5-10-13 ... Peter Hobbs 98
512 2-11013 PEANUTS PET 21 (D,F,G,S) (L Perry) B McMahon 5-10-10 ... T Wall 99
513 U21420 TEBITTO 29 (D,F,S) (L Ames) A Turnell 7-10-7 ... R Boucher (7) 84
514 3321-00 RUN HIGH 17 (D,S) (Mrs P Mitchell) P Mitchell 7-10-7 ... D Murphy 92
515 1425-25 CINNAMON RUN 23 (D,S) (R Jenks) N Gaselee 8-10-3 ... B Powell 88

BETTING: 100-30 Joyful Noise, 11-2 Without A Doubt, 7-1 Peanuts Pet, Moody Man, 10-1 Ambassador, Bradbury Star, 12-1 Afaristoun, Dare Say, 16-1 Run High, Midnight Strike, 20-1 others.

1989: TRAVEL MYSTERY 6-10-0 P Scudamore (3-1 fav) M Pipe 8 ran

FORM FOCUS JOYFUL NOISE hd 2nd of 17 to Deep Sensation in the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury (2m 100yd, heavy) with MOODY MAN (8lb worse off) 7l 4th, AMBASSADOR (12lb worse off) 8l 8th, OUT OF RANGE (1lb worse off) 12l 13th and AFARISTOUN (5lb worse off) over 2l 15th. DARE SAY put up best effort when beating NAHAR (4lb better off) ¾l over this course and distance with MIDNIGHT STRIKE (6lb better off) neck 3rd. BRADBURY STAR, winner of 4 of his 5 starts this season, 2½l 2nd of 13 to Cash Is King at Kempton (2m 4f, good) last time out with NAHAR (11lb better off) 23l 4th. Previously beat Chatam 15l at Cheltenham (2m 4f, firm). PEANUTS PET 22l 3rd of 8 to Royal Derbi at Nottingham (2m, heavy) last time. Previously beat Rakes Lane 1l at Doncaster (2m 150yd, good). TEBITTO put up best effort on penultimate start when 8l 2nd of 17 to Good Cause at Fontwell (2m 2f, good to soft). CINNAMON RUN was a never nearer 6th of 20 to Star Season over course and distance (soft) with RUN HIGH (same terms) 3¼l 9th. Previously 4l 2nd of 16 to Fragrant Dawn at Newbury (2m 100yd, good) with TEBITTO (2lb better off) 4l 4th and PENNY FORUM (2lb better off) 13th.
Selection: JOYFUL NOISE

4.40 BURNT OAK & SPECIAL CARGO NOVICES CHASE (£3,652: 2m 18yd) (6 runners)

C 4

601 225-211 BOUTZDAROFF 14 (D,F,G) (Robinson Publications Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-8 M Dwyer 98
602 2-25112 DECIDED 21 (D,BF,F,G,S) (R Green) Miss H Knight 7-11-5 ... R Beggan ● 99
603 510-P1P PENDENNIS 28 (CD,G,S) (Comtesse de Bryas) N Henderson 7-11-5 ... R Dunwoody 73
604 4981-04 ARTFUL ABBOT 21 (B) (P Thompson) J Webber 8-11-1 ... M Lynch —
605 1/F2 HIGHFIRE 8 (D,F) (G Monahan) O O'Neill 8-11-1 ... G Bradley 74
606 90-300P GENERAL JAMES 49 (D,F) (Mrs Tr Stone-Brown) J Gifford 7-10-12 ... R Rowe —

BETTING: 11-10 Decided, 5-2 Boutzdaroff, 8-1 Pendennis, 10-1 Highfire, 14-1 Artful Abbot, 16-1 General James.

1989: SEVENS OUT 7-11-3 T Morgan (20-1) A Wilson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS BOUTZDAROFF beat Hilarion 6l at Doncaster (3m 150yd, good to firm) last time. Previously beat Dunloring (winner since) 3l at Edinburgh (2m, good).
DECIDED ¾l 2nd of 8 to Cashew King at Nottingham (2m, soft). Earlier beat Another Coral 3l at Kempton (2m, good). PENDENNIS was probably unsuited by the heavy ground when pulled up last time and is better judged when beating Western Legend (winner since) 1½l at Leicester (2m 4f, good). ARTFUL ABBOT 30l 4th of 10 to Generally Right at Chepstow (2m, soft) last time. HIGHFIRE 8l 2nd of 12 to Go West at Newbury (2m 160yd, good) on first completed start over fences. GENERAL JAMES makes chasing debut here. Last time pulled up in the race won by Fils Concord at Kempton (2m 4f, good).
Selection: DECIDED (nap)

5.10 FLYERS NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,360: 2m) (19 runners)

1 11 ROCKTOR 120 (F) (Mrs G Watkinson-Yull) D Barons 5-12-8 ... R Greene (7) —
2 ALF CARRENA (H Solomons) J Jenkins 5-11-8 ... — —
3 AMANDA'S PRINCE (R Bray & Mr D Ferns) G Balding 6-11-8 ... A Charlton (3) —
4 CAZAUDEHORE (G Johnson) M Robinson 5-11-8 ... W McFarland (3) —
5 4 COKENNY BOY 50 (BF) (S Hancock) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-8 ... J Tuite (7) —
6 LUCKY LANDERS (S Dunster) M Pipe 5-11-8 ... D Richmond (7) —
7 0 PITCHCOTT HILL 32 (J Brown) D Nicholson 5-11-8 ... — —
8 SALVAGER (Miss V Willis) F O'Mahony 6-11-8 ... — —
9 SERGEANT SILVER (R Fawns) R Sibley 5-11-8 ... — —
10 THE JOGGER (Mrs E Stockwell) O Sherwood 5-11-8 ... — —
11 BACKSTREET GIRL (J Johnson) R Frost 5-11-3 ... P Johnson (7) —
12 0 BARTONDALE 32 (S Bishop) G Thorner 5-11-3 ... J Duffy (7) —
13 SPRING WEDDING (J Webber) J Webber 5-11-3 ... Miss J Henry —
14 THATS IRISH (C Bravery) C Bravery 5-11-3 ... — —
15 4 CELTIC PRINCE 14 (Mrs G Maxwell-Jones) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-0 R Macnaice (7) —
16 HIGH HAGBERG (Mrs T Goodall) J Long 4-11-0 ... Leesa Long (7) —
17 LISAHANE LAD (Mrs P Aldersey) N Smith 4-11-0 ... T Pinfield (5) —
18 0 LOFTINESS 14 (A Ingleby-Mackenzie) N Henderson 4-11-0 ... P Harley (7) —
19 WILL I FLY (Mrs D Stamp) K Bailey 4-11-0 ... I Lawrence (3) —

BETTING: 2-1 Rocktor, 11-4 Cokenny Boy, 5-1 Lucky Landers, 13-2 Celtic Prince, 10-1 Loftiness, Amanda's Prince, 14-1 others.

1989: ONEUPMANSHIP 4-10-7 S Conlon (5-1) D Elsworth 20 ran

5.40 FLYERS NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £1,360: 2m) (19 runners)

1 AFTERTHOUGHT (Lord Swaythling) N Henderson 5-11-8 ... — —
2 AMENHOTEP (A Hussein) D Barons 5-11-8 ... R Greene (7) —
3 CAPTAIN DIBBLE (Mrs R Vaughan) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-8 ... M Foster (7) —
4 CELTIC STEPHEN (Mrs M Potter) O O'Neill 6-11-8 ... V Slattery (7) —
5 GRATUITY (Mrs L Field & J Bishop) G Balding 5-11-8 ... — —
6 POETIC GEM (Lady Harris) G Balding 5-11-8 ... W McFarland —
7 ROMANY SPLIT (Mrs S Lockhart) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-8 ... R Macnaice (7) —
8 CHARLOTTE GRAY (G Stewart) R Johnson Houghton 5-11-3 .. Mr G Johnson Houghton —
9 6 MORNING TIDE 101 (Mrs V Forte) J Forte 5-11-3 ... — —
10 QUEEN OF SPARTA (Lady Helen Smith) M Wilkinson 5-11-3 ... J Railton (3) —
11 RAPID GROUND (D Satchell) D Murray Smith 5-11-3 ... P Verling (5) —
12 TUDOR ORCHID (Mrs R MacLean) M Robinson 5-11-3 ... I Lawrence (3) —
13 APPLETON (E Hirst) Mrs J Pitman 4-11-0 ... J Tuite (7) —
14 ARDCRONEY CHIEF (W Dore) D Gandolfo 4-11-0 ... W Humphreys —
15 RUBINS BOY (J Cooper) B Smart 4-11-0 ... — —
16 8 UNCLE MOGY 14 (Lord Vestey) D Nicholson 4-11-0 ... — —
17 BORADAWRA (Mrs D Jenks) M Pipe 4-10-9 ... — —
18 CARDS AND KISSES (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-10-9 ... M Hoad (7) —
19 PARKWAY EXPRESS (M Coles) B Stevens 4-10-9 ... M Stevens (7) —

BETTING: 5-2 Appleton, 100-30 Boradawra, 11-2 Afterthought, 7-1 Tudor Orchid, 9-1 Rubins Boy, Uncle Mogy, 12-1 Amenhotep, 16-1 others.

1989: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
C Brooks	7	24	29.2	M Bowlby	7	17	41.2
D Murray Smith	6	27	22.2	A Charlton	5	17	29.4
Mrs J Pitman	16	72	22.2	Mr G Oxley	5	18	27.8
M Pipe	7	34	20.6	S Smith Eccles	20	82	24.4
Jimmy Fitzgerald	3	15	20.0	R Rowe	25	152	16.4
N Henderson	15	77	19.5	R Dunwoody	18	111	16.2

(Not including yesterday's results)

CHEPSTOW

Selections
By Mandarin

1.30 Vault.
2.00 Romany King.
2.30 ALKINOR REX (nap).
3.00 Hope Diamond.
3.30 Halmajor.
4.00 Holy Joe.

Going: soft (heavy patches)

1.30 SWISH HURDLE (4-Y-O: £4,386: 2m) (9 runners)

BBC 1

1 FIGHTING WORDS (Pall-mall Partners) J Gifford 11-3 ... E Murphy —
2 6101 FISTFUL OF BUCKS 19 (D,S) (T Dyer) C Weedon 11-3 ... A Webb 98
3 212222 GAY RUFFIAN 7 (D,G,S) (F James) D Burchell 11-3 ... D J Burchell ● 99
4 1222 REGAL LAKE 33 (D,S) (Platinum Racing) Mrs J Pitman 11-3 ... M Pitman 91
5 6330 ROUYAN 14 (Darfam Racing) R Simpson 11-3 ... W Morris 93
6 042313 SHARPGUN 40 (D,S) (V Young) V Young 11-3 ... J Akehurst 91
7 P1112F SLEEPLINE ROYALE 2 (D,BF,G,S) (Sleepline Holdings) R Holder 11-3 ... N Mann (5) 90
8 4F VAULT 7 (BF) (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 11-3 ... J Osborne 96
9 111 TRI FOLENE 106 (D,F,G,S) (Pipe Scudamore Racing Plc) M Pipe 10-12 ... P Scudamore 94

BETTING: 15-8 Gay Ruffian, 5-2 Tri Folene, 5-1 Regal Lake, 8-1 Vault, 10-1 Sleepline Royale, 12-1 others.

1989: PETCHAM PARK 4-11-3 P Scudamore (8-15 fav) M Pipe 5 ran

FORM FOCUS FISTFUL OF BUCKS was pushed out to defeat Polar Vision 8l in a Fontwell claimer (2m 2f, soft). GAY RUFFIAN creditable 4l 2nd to Royal Derbi at Hereford (2m, soft); previously 8l 2nd to Silver King at Newbury (2m 100yd, heavy) with ROUYAN (same terms) 10l 3rd. REGAL LAKE has been unlucky not to supplement debut victory when meeting 2nd beaten 7l by Triumph hurdle favourite Royal Square at Kempton (2m, good) and runner up to Stone Flake when beaten 1½l at Wolverhampton (2m, good to soft). SHARPGUN failed to quicken from the last at Plumpton (2m, heavy) finishing 1¾l 3rd to Battalion. VAULT had every chance when falling 2 out behind Dark Desire at Newbury (2m 100yd, good). TRI FOLENE completed early season treble at Haydock (2m, good to soft) beating GAY RUFFIAN (same terms) ¾l.
Selection: REGAL LAKE

2.0 AMDEGA NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,207: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

BBC 1

1 20-0321 GO WEST 6 (B,G,S) (Mrs J Dodd) M Pipe 8-11-10 ... P Scudamore 97
2 112F-30 FIDDLERS THREE 32 (D,S) (S Salisbury) T Forster 7-11-6 ... H Davies 92
3 212-1FP VALASSY 37 (BF,S) (H Brown) J Edwards 7-11-2 ... N Williamson (3) 90
4 1-89212 ROMANY KING 9 (BF,S) (L Garrett) G Balding 6-11-0 ... R Guest ● 99
5 210-21P ELVERCONE 21 (V,CD,S) (Mrs C Scott) A J Wilson 9-10-12 ... J Osborne 98
6 5/055U-3 KILKILMARTIN 19 (K Moore) P Hedger 8-10-11 ... M Richards 91
7 502212 ASTRE RADIEUX 8 (D,S) (T Hemmings) S Mellor 5-10-10 ... S Cowley 93
8 DU2-10F DEVIL'S ELBOW 8 (F) (HRH Prince Of Wales) N Gaselee 8-10-6 ... A Adams —
9 253FPU ROHANS BIRTHDAY 7 (Brewer Fabrications) Mrs S Oliver 8-10-4 ... Jacqui Hayes 90
10 P2PFPF ZUMMERSET 9 (G) (D Coombs) D Barons 8-10-3 ... N Hawke (3) 95
11 P00425 SPIRITED HOLME 21 (B) (Mrs V Neale) D Williams 8-10-0 ... R Bellamy (5) 95
12 44-4058 ROYALTY BAY 16 (S Robinson) J Scoring 7-10-0 ... L Harvey —
13 4/PU-053 KILFORD 16 (Mrs C Broadley) P Ransom 10-10-0 ... S J O'Neill 74

Long handicap: Royalty Bay 9-6, Kilford 9-7.

BETTING: 7-2 Astre Radieux, 9-2 Go West, 5-1 Romany King, 13-2 Elvercone, 8-1 Kilkilmartin, 10-1 Zummerset, Fiddlers Three, 12-1 Devils Elbow, 33-1 others.

1989: MAD JIMMY 7-10-5 Peter Hobbs (10-1) P Hobbs 8 ran

FORM FOCUS GO WEST beat Highfire 8l in a novices maiden at Newbury (2m 160yd, good), previously hd 2nd to Generally Right here (2m, soft) with SPIRITED HOLME (15lb better off) 32½l 5th. VALASSY has failed to complete since defeating Docklands Express 2l on seasonal bow at Fakenham (2m 5f 110yd, soft). ROMANY KING 8l 2nd to Shady Road at Ludlow (2m 4f, good to soft); previously beat Master Comedy ¾l at Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, soft) with KILKILMARTIN (3lb better off) 5l 3rd. ELVERCONE scored over course and distance (heavy) on penultimate start when defeating Celtic Walk 12l. ASTRE RADIEUX 1½l 2nd to The Leggett in Haydock handicap (2m).
Selection: GO WEST

2.30 CROWN BERGER HURDLE RACE (Listed race: 5-Y-O: £13,500: 2m) (12 runners)

BBC 1

1 135 AKDAM 23 (D,S) (Mrs G J-Houghton) R Johnson Houghton 11-5 ... K Mooney 72
2 12 ALKINOR REX 14 (D,S) (M Paradoos) M Francis 11-5 ... M Richards 97
3 BELMOREDEAN 113F (J Hennessy) R O'Sullivan 11-5 ... J Osborne —
4 311154 HEY COTTAGE 32 (D,BF,G,S) (Mrs S Dimond) D McCain 11-5 ... — 88
5 44 LOAMINGDALE 33 (Mrs S Crane) R Akehurst 11-5 ... L Harvey —
6 2 MISTRAL STORY 15 (J Hutchinson) J Gifford 11-5 ... E Murphy 84
7 6-025A [illegible] 19 (V) (Mrs T Palmer) G Balding 11-5 ... J Frost 78
8 21-3111 RI-NA-RITHANN 32 (D,F,G,S) (Dubarecam Racing Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 11-5 .. D Gallagher 90
9 11-131 RUN TO FORM 18 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Allen) Mrs J Pitman 11-5 ... M Pitman ● 99
10 4-1332 SACRE D'OR 35 (D,G) (J Fryer) J Mackie 11-5 ... S J O'Neill 97
11 131005 MEGABUCKS 14 (D,G,S) (J Hawksley & C Pettigrew) W Musson 11-4 ... M Perrett 96
12 113P01 DISTANT RELATION 15 (B,D,G) (D Bass) K Cunningham-Brown 11-0 ... H Davies 78

BETTING: 6-4 Run To Form, 11-4 Ri-Na-Rithann, 6-1 Mistral Story, Alkinor Rex, 10-1 Loamingdale, 16-1 others.

1989: DIS TRAIN 5-11-5 M Pitman (4-1) Mrs J Pitman 8 ran

FORM FOCUS ALKINOR REX 8l 3rd of 19 to Stratford Ponds in a Kempton listed event (2m, good) with MEGABUCKS (4lb better off) 16l 5th. HEY COTTAGE 8l 4th of 21 to City Comment at Carlisle (2m 1f 110yd, good); earlier beat Burnt Fingers 8l at Bangor (2m 4f, soft).
MISTRAL STORY made a promising hurdling debut when a 2¾l 2nd of 21 to top novice Forest Sun at Kempton (2m, good). RI-NA-RITHANN beat East River a head at Warwick (2m, soft); previously beat Andy Boy 10l at Towcester (2m, good to firm). RUN TO FORM comfortably beat Smiths Venture 10l at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, soft); previously 10l 2nd of 11 to Riverhead at Folkestone (2m 100yd).
Selection: RUN TO FORM

3.0 ABERGAVENNY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,003: 2m 4f) (12 runners)

1 041/04P BLUE DART 16 (D,BF,G,S) (H Padfield) T Forster 10-12-0 ... H Davies —
2 F16332 RUSTSTONE 7 (D,G,S) (R Brown) R Brown 10-11-13 ... J Brown (7) 92
3 812-150 ETON ROUGE 48 (C,D,S) (Mrs B Jarvis) S Christian 11-11-11 ... J Bryan 92
4 312114- ZETA'S LAD 339 (C,G,S) (Mrs D Upson) J Upson 7-11-8 ... J White 92
5 11089/ THE HACIENDEROS 850 (D,G,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 11-11-4 ... E Murphy —
6 11F-422 UNICOL 70 (BF,S) (D Mullan) S Mellor 8-10-13 ... S Cowley 95
7 221-133 HOPE DIAMOND 21 (B,S) (CGA (Horseracing 1986) Ltd) N Gaselee 7-10-13 ... A Adams 98
8 F/044P-5 HOPE END 14 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs Y Allsop) Mrs H Parrott 12-10-10 ... R Bellamy (5) ● 99
9 1U2/P40 PROBLEM CHILD 23 (D,G,S) (Amity Finance Ltd) R Simpson 7-10-4 ... W Morris —
10 U1P/FF BIRD OF SPIRIT 53 (G,S) (E Pratt) M Scudamore 10-10-3 ... — —
11 P0-F539 HAIRY HAT 5 (S) (H Pelham) J Gifford 7-10-0 ... E McKinley 95
12 PF-P368 SIR WAGER 40 (B,G,S) (J Homewood) Mrs L Clay 9-10-0 ... M Richards 95

Long handicap: Hairy Hat 9-9, Sir Wager 9-7.

BETTING: 3-1 Unicol, 9-2 Hope Diamond, 5-1 Ruststone, 6-1 Zeta's Lad, 13-2 Blue Dart, 10-1 The Hacienderos, 16-1 others.

1989: DIS TRAIN 5-11-5 M Pitman (4-1) Mrs J Pitman 8 ran

3.30 MONMOUTH NOVICES CHASE (£2,641: 3m) (16 runners)

1 2-21412 SKINNHILL 14 (B,F,G,S) (Mrs T Binnington) T Thomson Jones 8-11-8 ... H Davies 88
2 4P-612P BOLD LAMENT 17 (G,S) (Lord Swaythling) N Henderson 9-11-8 ... J White 98
3 P3-3673 BRONZE EFFIGY 25 (G,S) (M Henriques) M Henriques 8-11-3 ... L Harvey 94
4 3214/3- CATHERINES PAL 307 (G,S) (D Wintle) D Wintle 8-11-3 ... A Carroll —
5 005-1F CORUSCATE 17 (G) (H Joel) J Gifford 8-11-3 ... E McKinley 81
6 06-P00 CURRY EXPRESS 16 (F Doggrell) R Hodges 7-11-3 ... — —
7 26P DINGLE JACK 60 (R Shell) R Shell 6-11-3 ... M Jackson (7) —
8 1/120-PF EVER HOPEFUL 15 (F) (M Padfield) D Barons 8-11-3 ... N Hawke (3) —
9 6522FP HALMAJOR 25 (BF,G,S) (I Young) G Balding 8-11-3 ... J Frost ● 99
10 442324 MANDRAKI SHUFFLE 19 (S) (Mrs J Dibben) O Sherwood 8-11-3 ... J Osborne 96
11 FP/P-P MOSSAL BAY 7 (J Old) J Old 9-11-3 ... S McNeill —
12 8P/P455 PRIORS COPPICE 21 (Miss A Bucknall) C Popham 6-11-3 ... A Adams 87
13 005P-P0 SEAL PRINCE 60 (Mrs J Dening) R Dening 9-11-3 ... R Rowell —
14 PP0-586 TEMPERABLE 33 (S) (P Rash) J Thomas 6-11-3 ... Mr P Doyle (5) —
15 55P/0 HALS LASS 39 (Mrs M Taylor) C Broad 10-10-12 ... R Bellamy (5) —
16 3-262F5 PROVIDENCE LODGE 25 (B,G,S) (C Bird III) F Walwyn 8-10-12 ... R Chapman 89

BETTING: 5-2 Bold Lament, 4-1 Skinnhill, 5-1 Halmajor, 11-2 Mandraki Shuffle, 8-1 Coruscate, Ever Hopeful, 12-1 Providence Lodge, 20-1 others.

1989: SUFFOLK DOWNS 7-11-3 S McNeill (10-1) J Old 6 ran

4.0 AVONMOUTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,616: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

1 P31/006 NONE TOO DEAR 16 (V,D,G) (Perseverance Group) G Balding 8-11-10 ... R Guest —
2 10-0083 THE GAELCHARN 40 (S) (Mrs W Tulloch) C Brooks 6-11-8 ... B de Haan 73
3 124421- CHAMPAGNE RUN 318 (G) (T Connor) W G M Turner 5-11-6 ... P Holley (5) 83
4 60F80/ NOBLE VIKING 683 (F) (G Shaves) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-4 ... M Pitman —
5 0802-12 HOLY JOE 17 (D) (T Pilkington) A J Wilson 8-11-1 ... J Osborne ● 99
6 P40-PP DAVID'S TREASURE 47 (D,S) (T Faggeri) Mrs N Sharpe 10-10-1 ... H Davies 86
7 504 ESPRIT DE FEMME 40 (V Young) V Young 4-10-0 ... J Akehurst —
8 0P0-0P0 FOREST BREEZE 25 (G Ovenden) D White 7-10-0 ... A Carroll 76

Long handicap: Esprit De Femme 8-13, Forest Breeze 8-5.

BETTING: 15-8 Holy Joe, 11-4 None Too Dear, 3-1 The Gaelcharn, 8-1 Noble Viking, Champagne Run, 14-1 others.

1989: WILD FLYER 8-11-7 W McFarland (12-1) R Lee 11 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
C Brooks	3	9	33.3	N Hawke	5	14	35.7
M Pipe	34	106	32.1	P Scudamore	56	172	32.6
J Gifford	15	65	23.1	K Mooney	5	20	25.0
N Henderson	7	32	21.9	J Osborne	3	14	21.4
R Akehurst	3	15	20.0	M Pitman	9	47	19.1
D Barons	17	87	19.5	J White	3	16	18.8

Rain hinders Starlet's chance

From Our French Racing Correspondent, Paris

The Queen's Starlet (Guy Guignard) and Bashful Boy (John Reid) represent William Hastings-Bass in the Grand Prix du Conseil General des Alpes Maritimes at Cagnes-sur-Mer tomorrow.

Starlet has good prospects of landing the blue riband event of the meeting but recent heavy rain will not help her cause.

The royal filly holds last year's second, third and fourth, Our Account, Kaid Pous and Debordant, on a line through Papaano, but it remains to be seen if she can handle the soft ground.

Bashful Boy is improving and was a good second recently in the Prix d'Eze. He can make his presence felt though may lack the necessary pace to win a prize of this nature.

Akimbo chases a treble in the Prix Policeman earlier in the afternoon and the Charlie Nelson colt should again beat Blue de Valois. Stable companion Double Encore was a disappointing eighth in yesterday's Prix Dufy behind 18-1 winner Kadanchon.

France's champion trainer Andre Fabre opened his account at Evry yesterday with his first runner of the season. The Cash Asmussen-ridden Broad Story, owned by Khaled Abdulla, won the Prix du Parc de Toreilles by 1½ lengths from Heart Noble.

Jean-Marie Beguigne spoke enthusiastically about his Epsom Derby hope, Bien de France. He said: "He has not gone into full work yet but looks wonderful. His seasonal debut will be in the Prix Greffulhe at Longchamp on April 22."

● Bookmakers William Hill, now part of Brent Walker, confirmed yesterday that the Imperial Cup at Sandown today will run in their name for the last time. The race has been sponsored by the betting chain for the past 17 years, but its proximity to the Cheltenham festival helped persuade the company's previous management to pull out.

Hills will increase its contribution to the William Hill Handicap Hurdle, formerly the Mecca Hurdle, at Sandown in December.

SPORTS BOOK OF THE WEEK

A multitude of racy memories

Mercy Rimell is a formidable woman who has spent a lifetime with horses. At seven, she was an international child rider; at 70, she was still a leading National Hunt trainer. She is the widow of Fred Rimell, who was four times a champion jockey, champion trainer, and trainer of a record four Grand National winners at Aintree. Her views about jockeys and horses are as strong as ever and to be respected

Jockeys ride different types of races now than they used to. These last seasons, we have seen Peter Scudamore riding a tremendous lot from the front. He has made the running on most of his winners. Whether those are his instructions or not, I cannot tell, but he has certainly ridden more races from the front than any other champion jockey.

We never gave detailed orders at Kinnersley. Terry Biddlecombe never had one in his life. Scudamore rode quite a lot of winners for me over the years, and I don't think I ever gave him any orders.

You say to them something like: "This one always likes to be up there" or "This horse wants dropping out. Give him a chance and he will find a fair bit of speed at the finish."

That's what you pay a jockey for: for him to use his head. You either say: "He stays very well and you can make plenty use of him" or "He barely gets the trip." You do not tie them down with a multitude of orders.

Very often, the way jockeys ride is an expression of their characters. Fred Winter's great strength was his *strength*. He was a very good jockey but — and comparisons are odious — he never struck me as quite the best I have known. John Francome was also a very fine rider, but I found almost everyone who rode for us honest and helpful.

Richard Linley I liked very much, an exemplary horseman and intelligent. His four years with me proved a most satisfactory partnership for him, for me and for Sheikh Ali. I suppose Richard wasn't the most forceful in the world, and I always thought that he didn't quite ride into the last as well as he might have done. But he gave a horse a beautiful ride and got results.

Sam Morshead was not one of our best by any means. He was a bit wild but brave — perhaps a bit too brave, for he was apt to unbalance the horse.

John Burke, the son of a schoolmaster in County Meath, was altogether different — an excellent rider and horseman, with beautiful hands, who won a lot of big ones for us. He succeeded Ken White, who had won a Champion Hurdle for us.

Like Burke, Ken could ride at an extremely light weight and was a most sympathetic rider; neither of them would ever knock a horse about. But Ken never had the flair of Terry Biddlecombe.

Now, Terry had all the flair, all the charisma, in the world. He won more races for us, which he shouldn't have won, than races he lost. I cannot say higher than that.

Terry's weaknesses were his weight and his life-style. Sometimes, I think, he didn't get much sleep the night before a big race.

To say Terry was flamboyant would be an understatement. But, in his heyday, he was terrific. He had courage and balance — his main assets. His great downfall was the fact that he was a playboy.

We once went to run Robert Sangster's Sunny Lad in the Norwegian Grand National, flying to Oslo in one of the Sangster planes. We were entertained well so, the night before the race, we decided to lock Terry in his bedroom. Chris, Robert's first wife, even jammed a chair under the door handle.

But Terry was resourceful . . . half an hour later, when we checked, he had escaped through the window, crawling along the sill and climbing into another room. God knows what time he returned! He probably stayed out all night.

Sunny Lad finished third. Possibly, he should have won, for he carried six or eight pounds overweight owing to the excesses of the previous night!

Terry was amazing. Fred always said that Terry simply did not know how to make a horse ready or how to put a set of tack on. He would just get on a horse and that was that. Whenever Terry was injured, Fred would ask him to come over and work in the yard to find out how it was all done. He never came.

One Boxing Day, we had two runners — Charlie Lad and Impact, a little grey. I was despatched to Newton Abbot with them and I drove down with Terry, who had obviously had a night out. All the way down, he moaned, groaned and grumbled or slept, and I drove. It was snowing and I kept thinking: "We'll get there and it'll be abandoned."

We felt both horses would win, and both owners liked a bet. It was still snowing when we reached the paddock for the first race, and Terry looked very sour. I said to him: "You *will* win and make *no* mistake about it. Out of the gate and always up there!" He did.

He came out to ride the grey, and I said: "This will win easier." It did. So, coming back, Terry was all smiles. "I'll drive," he said. That was Terry all over — down one minute, up the next.

At his best, there was no better rider. He was a tremendous opportunist. His good races far outnumbered the few duff ones. He should have won a second National on Gay Trip in 1972.

That was *not* one of his better efforts. Stuck on the outside all way around, and then beaten two lengths when he must have given away 30! And we were giving 22 pounds to the winner, Well To Do.

Horse and jockeys: Nicolaus Silver (above), ridden by Bobby Beasley and trained by Fred Rimell, is led in after winning the 1961 Grand National. The Rimell riders (clockwise), Terry Biddlecombe, the playboy with flair; John Burke, the Irishman with beautiful hands; and Richard Linley, the exemplary horseman who got results

Impossible. But Terry made fewer mistakes than most, and won a lot of races others wouldn't have.

Fearless Fred, for instance, was a desperate jumper but won 21 races. Terry used to ride him, and I don't know how he survived.

Bill Smith was Terry's exact opposite. I never ever got on with him — as a man or a jockey — though he won us a Champion Hurdle and a Triumph Hurdle. Terry was a complete extrovert, Bill the reverse. We never saw eye to eye. I was used to the open Biddlecombe way. Terry would always say what he thought and you could have fun with him.

Not with Bill Smith. He didn't do anything wrong when he was riding for us, but his character just didn't fit. When he left, it was a perfectly amicable end to the relationship. He had become friendly with the Walwyns, and they offered him a retainer. He told Fred: "I'd like to accept."

I don't think Fred was sorry to see him go. We were used to the open Biddlecombe way, and he was a very hard act to follow. After eight or nine years, you build a close association with your rider. We had a lot of horses in those days, and you see an awful lot of your jockey. You want to respect them and be friendly with them as well as admire their ability.

Ken White had more sympathy for a horse than any other of our riders. For him, a horse wasn't just a machine, a means to an end. He had always been around, riding second to Terry, and had brought home a lot of winners for us — Comedy of Errors, a second Champion Hurdle in 1975, and a Mackeson Gold Cup on Chatham in 1970, for instance. It was an automatic transition; I don't know how we got carried away with Bill Smith.

Ken managed Comedy very well. He was so light he could do 9st 8lb, and Comedy was massive. Yet he got on wonderfully well with him. I was always terribly pleased that Ken did, in the end, ride a Champion Hurdle winner because he had always been rather "second" in all ways. It was very rewarding for everybody that he rode him when he won.

John Burke followed Ken, and was certainly the second best jockey we ever had. Terry was *the* best, with John running a close second.

He came from Ireland, when he was 17, to ride as an amateur. He rode in some point-to-points and gradually progressed to Rules. Nobody but John would have won the Grand National on Rag Trade. Rag Trade was such a poor jumper that, after John Francome rode him the year before, he said: "That is the most horrible horse I've ever ridden. I'll never ride him again." That says a lot for John Burke.

He was a very nice, quiet Irishman. Unfortunately, he had a lot of success when young. He was only 21 when he won the National and the Gold Cup in the same year, 1976. Two years later, he won the Triumph Hurdle for us on Connaught Ranger.

Those victories so early went to his head, I am afraid. He had a bit of a problem with the drinking; he disappeared out of the game. We didn't part with him, he parted with us, but he was a marvellous horseman who lost his way.

Bobby Beasley was a good horseman but was extremely temperamental and would get frightfully depressed. If things weren't going well, he was terribly pessimistic. Never what you would call a cheery soul. He did ride a tremendous number of winners although not so many for us because, the season he was with us, we didn't have the best of years.

Bobby didn't really want to ride Nicolaus Silver in the National. He wanted to ride some Irish horse. But we had engaged him, and said: "No, you've got to stick." Anyway, he won the National, but he was difficult and so temperamental that he took far more controlling than our owners!

At that time, we had badly wanted Stan Mellor as stable jockey. But he took so long thinking about the offer that, by the time he rang to say: "Yes, I'll take the job", we had engaged Beasley. Fred, being Fred, wouldn't go back on his word. It was most unfortunate because we got on well with Stan and it would, I am sure, have been a much happier relationship.

If you go back to the Dave Dick days, modern jockeys ride very much shorter. See a picture of Dave riding ESB, when he won the 1956 National for us, and he is riding almost hunting length. My lasting memory of somebody riding really short in the National, however, was Andy Turnell. He must have had wonderful balance because he was a good rider but rode terrifically short.

Good jockeys find the length at which they feel comfortable and ride it. Today, you have a good rider in Tom Morgan, who rides quite long compared with some of the others you see.

But Francome did not ride frightfully short. Of all the jockeys I have seen, I suppose I would have taken John as the best . . . a very good horseman and intelligent. Scudamore is a good rider, and gets results, but I don't think he is yet the most stylish.

The standard now is as high as it has been for years. "Scu" sets a perfect example — and not only as a jockey. He has beautiful manners, dresses neatly and does not let his hair fall over his shoulders. As a rider, I tend to put him in the Biddlecombe bracket because he thumps a bit on the back of the saddle.

It is nice to have a jockey intelligent and articulate enough to tell you something after a race. Funnily enough, the one who used to be the best at telling us about a horse was Tim Brookshaw, who rode for us for quite a few seasons.

He wasn't terribly stylish but he did ride winners. He was certainly intelligent — not only could he tell you about the horse he had ridden but about most of the others in the race, too. That is always quite handy to know.

I do not approve of women jockeys except, of course, in point-to-points and hunter chases. Really, they're not the right make or shape for it.

The conditional jockeys system is quite wrong at the moment. It should be limited by age. Why should a clever, hard-working boy, who went to university and acquired some qualifications for his later life, lose because he has less time to ride before he becomes "unconditional" at 25. That's a bad rule.

The conditions of bumper races are also bad. You need *senior* jockeys riding novice horses. Put a novice on a novice, and neither learns anything. I also found that the best race jockeys are not necessarily the best schooling jockeys. We had a good rider at Kinnersley, Trevor Heath, who never made the grade as a jockey yet was really excellent when it came to schooling at home.

Most jockeys do not like schooling. I gather Fred Winter loathed it. And my Fred, who was four times champion jockey, always used to say that you can know too much about a horse. He would rather get on a horse he had never ridden before and probably give it a far better ride. Horse are like a lot of things: you can know too much about them!

Comedy was my champion of Champions

Comedy of Errors was fabulous, the best horse we ever had at Kinnersley. He won two Champion Hurdles, in 1973 and 1975, and was second in between. He met Sea Pigeon three times and beat him twice — and Sea Pigeon was a very, very good horse. Comedy was the best "Champion" I have seen in 52 years around the racing scene.

They say they never come back. Comedy did, and that proves what a good horse he was. How many others have won a race like the Champion, been beaten the next year, then come out to win it again?

For a hurdler, he was massive — 17 hands. But he was so beautifully made and so lovely to look at. I came up in the showing world and, he was so good looking, he would have won any middleweight hunter class.

When we bought him as a four-year-old, his claim to fame was that he had won two Flat races. He was by Goldhill, a sprinter, and the races he had won were over six or seven furlongs.

He won the first time we ran him at Nottingham, and we took him next to Cheltenham. The one thing we had made up our minds about was that he wanted to be held up. He was sprint bred and we were frightened he wouldn't get the trip.

I don't know what Terry Biddlecombe had been doing the night before, but he really distinguished himself on the day. He went to the front at the top of the hill and was beaten a neck. Fred was furious. Comedy should have won. I suppose that is why Terry never rode him again.

Because he was so big, Comedy was was that big, he could get away with kicking a few hurdles out of the ground.

In the 1974 Champion, the one he lost, Fred and I were not all that happy with Bill Smith's riding. We felt he should have won. People said Smith was caught napping. I think he played into Lanzarote's hands. Comedy had enormous speed but Bill did not ride him to use it. Richard Pitman stole a march on him and got first run down the hill . . . we were never within striking distance. It was our biggest disappointment.

Comedy never really jumped fences. He had been a wonderful horse to us and, I may sound silly and sentimental, which I suppose you shouldn't be in racing, but we didn't want anything horrible to happen to him. So he retired when he was 10, and I had him as my hack for 10 lovely years.

It was my mother, looking for a show horse, who found ESB. She saw him as an unbroken three-year-old and loved him. But he was slightly pigeon-toed, which would have ruled him out of showing. So we bought him for Rolly Oliver, father of Michael Oliver, who won the National with West Tip.

Then, he was sold to Leonard Carver, who trained ESB himself. He ran a lot of times but won only one small race — so, of course, went down the handicap. Finally, the horse came back to us — by then he was getting only 10st 7lb — and we won six races on the trot!

ESB went on to win the National the

Three's company: Gay Trip, the 1970 Grand National winner, relaxes with friends

We must have lost 10 lengths at Valentine's when Jack Dowdeswell brought us, literally, to a halt. We got on terms by the last but, by then, the Queen Mother's horse was going away. Then, Devon Loch just ran out of oxygen, like you see marathon runners. We have always believed that.

"What a way to win a National," said [illegible] — and it really did take all the pleasure from it. When Fred tried to sympathize with the Queen Mother, she said: "No, Mr Rimell. You won the National and that is it." She was marvellous, absolutely marvellous.

"Teazy-Weazy" Raymond, the hairdresser, bought Rag Trade at public auction at Doncaster to win a National. Raymond bought him in February and ran him in the National at the end of March. The next thing was that Teazy-Weazy rang Fred and asked if we would train him for the following year's race.

Rag Trade looked a clumsy horse, and *was* a clumsy horse, but he had quite a lot of ability. He won a Welsh National the year he won the Grand National, and he galloped through about three fences in that race and was still good enough to win. He was, therefore, a fully exposed horse when he went for the Grand National — he had his maximum weight. And he beat Red Rum.

Teazy-Weazy was a man I did not personally like. He had won the National previously with Ayala. He didn't really appreciate the fact that you had won it for him. And he was a mean man about presents for the lads and jockey.

We had four National winners, but always said our first "proper" one was Nicolaus Silver. We had more pleasure from that National than from any of our others. He was a beautiful horse and a precision jumper.

The year after he won the National, in 1961, he ran again when Kilmore won. I always thought that, had the ground been right in 1962, he would have won again. It was very heavy. He could not act on it at all. He hated it. Nicolaus Silver was beaten only by a head in the Whitbread by Pas Seul, who won a Cheltenham Gold Cup, and that was on ground he loved.

Both Fred and I always thought that Gay Trip should have won his second National in 1972. He was on the outside all the way from going to Becher's second time. He gave lengths and lengths away — very much more than the distance he was beaten by. I think that Terry Biddlecombe, in his heart, thought so, too. Terry just had one of his off-days.

Gay Trip was a class horse, and class horses in those days usually won Nationals. Since then, people have used him as an example of the two-miler who can win a National. People say: "So-and-so is a real Gay Trip type . . ." because he never won a three-mile race yet could stay 4½ miles at Liverpool.

Gay Trip won two Mackesons and numerous two or 2½-mile races, but he never won a three-mile chase. Before his National in 1970, we thought he was a very athletic little horse. Although he fell the first time out for us, he was a very good jumper.

We always thought that ESB didn't stay properly, although he won the National. I don't think Gay Trip stayed but he had that bit of class about him and, in those days, the fences hadn't been modified. It was a much harder task to win a National then. Jumping was the name of the game.

Today, you have to have a horse that stays a lot better because the fences are that much easier and it is more of a race. Years ago, it was a jumping competition. That's the way I look at it, anyway. Today, your moderate 2½-mile horse wouldn't have the speed. I am sure I am right about that.

These are extracts from *Reflections on Racing* by Mercy Rimell, introduced and edited by Ivor Herbert, published by Pelham Books next week (£14.99)

RUGBY UNION: THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LIFE IN THE COURAGE FIRST DIVISION BASEMENT

Melrose's mobility will keep them top

By Alan Lorimer

The McEwan's National League reaches its climax today at the Greenyards where Melrose and Jed-forest face each other in what is virtually the championship decider.

The postponement of the Stewart's-Melville v Melrose match two weeks ago has, of course, changed the finality of today's clash and even if Melrose win this afternoon, they will still have the Inverleith club standing between them and a first ever first division title.

Melrose have looked potential champions from an early stage in the season and go into today's match as the title favourites, even though they will be without their experienced loose-head prop, Tom McLeish.

Powerful scrummaging has not, however, been the hallmark of this Melrose side whose pack has excelled much more in the ruck and maul and in their mobility about the field. In Doddie Weir and Carl Hogg they have more than useful lineout exponents and should gain the ascendancy in this area.

Behind the scrum, Craig Chalmers should be able to dictate play, either with his high up-and-under kicks or, as he showed against Stirling County, by releasing the ball to what is a very good back division in which the 19-year-old Graham Shiel, at inside centre, is such a key player.

Melrose also have attacking options in Keith Robertson on the wing and the powerful Craig Redpath, who showed his place-kicking talents on Monday by putting over a penalty from his own 10 metre line.

Jed-Forest are perhaps the surprise of the season but those who are involved in the club will point to their youth policy as the key to this season's success. That has brought on players like their centre, Andy Douglas, and their back row trio of Ron Kirkpatrick, Callum Brown and Kevin Armstrong, all capable of providing the impetus for victory.

Bedford look for answers as relegation looms large

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

A year ago, Bath were so far ahead of the field that they were able to clinch the Courage Clubs Championship against Nottingham with two matches still to be played in the first division.

This season, the top of the table is much tighter, though Bath's one-point lead over Gloucester gives them the edge as the league elbows aside — if only momentarily — the climax of the five nations' championship next week.

But, while clubs at the head of the three national divisions jostle for advantage, spare a thought for Bedford, who have seemed doomed for relegation back to the second division ever since their defeat by Saracens last September.

This week, the top bar at Goldington Road was packed for a meeting to clear the air between the club's officers and concerned supporters.

As Bedford's situation has become gloomier and gloomier — two clubs have scored over 70 points against them in the league, and one 60 — so letters have flowed in from the membership. "A lot of people have been disappointed, though no more than the players and committee," Ken Phillips, the chairman, said.

It was a deliberate move, therefore, to stage a meeting for members to voice their fears and the committee to expand on their approach. Phillips believes this has resulted in a healthier atmosphere.

"Our major difficulty is that we need a broader base from which to look for players. We need to expand our contacts with universities and schools," he said. It will help in that respect that Ian Snook, the coach from Taranaki, New Zealand, has been helping the Cambridge University under-21 team.

Both he and Simon Ingram, chairman of the club's playing committee, expounded their views to the members, with Snook, who is due to spend a second year with Bedford, emphasizing the commitment required for first division rugby, which may have come as a shock to some of the players this season.

"There is no doubt some of the players were not prepared for the demands of first division football," Phillips said. "Some were not quite good enough. But our members, quite naturally, wanted assurances that we are getting to grips with the problems.

"It's fair to say that we are not yet down, though I admit we have three hard games left with Wasps, Bristol and Rosslyn Park."

The first of those, at home to Wasps today, sees Harris restored to Bedford's back row, where he will oppose Burroughs, the former England colt who is making his league debut.

But Wasps have the advantage of their three internationals — Andrew, Rendall and Probyn — and remain hopeful that, if either Bath or Gloucester slip up ahead of them, they will be able to take advantage. A wistful hope.

Victory for London Scottish, who are without two of their three internationals, White and Burnell, at Roundhay, will confirm their emergence from the third division.

LEAGUE TABLES

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	8	7	0	1	216	86	14
Gloucester	8	6	1	1	171	108	13
Wasps	8	6	0	2	180	70	12
Harlequins	8	6	0	2	166	107	12
Saracens	8	5	1	2	138	123	11
Leicester	8	4	0	4	182	127	8
Orrell	8	3	0	5	122	89	6
Nottingham	8	3	0	5	136	114	6
Bristol	8	3	0	5	86	103	6
Rosslyn Park	8	3	0	5	92	152	6
Moseley	8	1	0	7	83	174	2
Bedford	8	0	0	8	43	362	0

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northampton	8	6	1	1	105	77	13
London Irish	8	6	0	2	188	160	12
Lpool St Helens	8	5	2	1	105	82	12
Coventry	8	5	1	2	151	116	11
Richmond	8	4	1	3	137	102	9
Rugby	8	4	0	4	184	110	8
Plymouth Albion	8	4	0	4	151	101	8
Sale	8	4	0	4	106	120	8
Headingley	8	3	0	5	103	109	6
Waterloo	8	2	0	6	81	130	4
Blackheath	8	1	2	5	92	157	4
Gosforth	8	0	1	7	64	201	1

Army look to new recruits

By David Hands

Since winning their second successive inter-services championship last season, the Army have undergone something of a purge: they will field seven players new to the championship at Twickenham this afternoon when they play the Royal Navy for the Willis Faber Trophy.

They have lost some leading performers to civilian life, notably Steele, the stand-off half and goal-kicker, who has settled in so well with Northampton. In his place, Walker, the Bristol University student, makes his first appearance alongside Taylor, with whom he has played for Scotland's under-21 side.

Bartcliff has played so well on the wing that he keeps out Wheatley, of Moseley, while Rodber forsakes league duties with Northampton to play at No. 8 in a pack led by McCall, the former Ireland lock, who is in his last season.

The Navy, left holding the wooden spoon last season, are unbeaten in their warm-up games since Christmas. Alcock, who is also Cornwall's full back, will lead them yet again for a match which, judging by ticket sales, will attract more than last year's crowd of 10,000.

ARMY: Capt R Preston (Duke of Wellington's Regiment); Sgt E Atkins (Royal Signals), Sgt/Inst C Stewart (APTC), Lt S Hopkin (King's Own Borderers), L/Cpl D Barcliff (Royal Signals); 2nd Lt M Walker (RAMC), Lt B Taylor (DWR); Bdr D Coughlan (Royal Horse Artillery), Lt J Cawley (Royal Irish Rangers), 2nd Lt A Ellery (RAMC), L/Cpl R Nelson (RE), Maj B McCall (REME, capt), Lt R Casdagli (ACC), L/Cpl K Fendlaand (REME), 2nd Lt T Rodber (Green Howards).

ROYAL NAVY: Lt G Alcock (Seahawk, capt); Lt M Speakman (Broadsword), LWEM (R) D Oakley (Collingwood), POMEA A Kellett (Brilliant), Lt S Phillips (DNR London); S/Lt B Nicholas (RAE Farnborough), LPT I Torpey (Newcastle); POW (Wtr) J Hirst (Nelson), L/C R Joy (Dolphin), Cpl I Bevan (CTCRM), LPT I Russell (Raleigh), Cpl S Trench (40 Cdo RM), Sgm R Armstrong (CTCRM), Cpl J Bryant (40 Cdo RM), Sgt M Reece (DNR London).

Referee: E Morrison (Gloucestershire).

Norling in sight of record

Even during their present trough Welsh rugby may claim one of the world's best in Clive Norling, their leading referee, who will take his tally of internationals to 23 when he handles two of Australia's three games against France during the summer (David Hands writes).

That will match the record of Gwynne Walters (Wales) and Kevin Kelleher (Ireland). Norling is also to referee the Schweppes Welsh Cup final, in Cardiff on May 5, for the fourth time and Les Peard, his international-panel colleague, will be joined by Gareth Simmonds in Japan next month for the World Cup qualifying matches in the Asian-Pacific group.

Norling and Derek Bevan, who handled Japan's international with Fiji last weekend, will officiate in the cup semi-finals next month: capacity at the Arms Park for Norling's tie, between Neath and Swansea, has been cut to 32,000 and it will kick off at 2pm, with Cardiff's game with Nottingham two hours later.

But Brian Nicholas, coach to Bridgend, who meet Aberavon in the other semi-final, believes that the other tie is receiving favoured-club status: "The four teams should be given equal treatment and I don't think they should have a semi-final at the Arms Park," he said. "It devalues the final and that stadium, which is Welsh rugby's equivalent to Wembley, should be left to stage only the final."

Craven wants single SA body shortly

Dr Danie Craven, who was elected yesterday for his 35th year as president of the South African Rugby Board (SARB), has called for a unified governing body in South African rugby within three months (David Hands writes).

The SARB hopes to create one non-political, non-racial organization by merging with the South African Rugby Union (SARU). Talks are still going on towards this aim but meanwhile Craven said that any union affiliated to the SARB that flouted official policy on integration should be barred.

He also told the annual meeting in Cape Town that the SARB should organize aid for the Romanian Rugby Federation as a way back into Europe.

TODAY'S TEAM NEWS

First division

Gloucester v Harlequins
Gloucester field Price on the wing in place of the injured Morgan but Harlequins will be without the injured Wood (centre) and Edwards (lock) as well as two England players, Carling and Ackford. Tupman and Langhorn replace the injured pair.

Rosslyn Park v Saracens
Hanwood makes his first league appearance of the season at hooker for Park, who have Taylor at No. 8 and Moon as captain. Saracens prefer Terbuck and Linley in the back row but are without the injured Kennedy (wing) and Rudling (stand-off).

Nottingham v Bath
Rees is injured so Nottingham are without their four internationals: Kilford (full back), Taylor (hooker), Greenwood (lock) and Back (flanker) play against a full-strength Bath.

Bristol v Leicester
Bristol are without injured locks Blackmore and Stiff, while Woodman comes in for Thillet, the French wing who has a damaged hamstring. Rory Underwood plays for Leicester, who give taste to Wells (flanker) and Kardooni (scrum half).

Second division

Lpl St Helens v Blackhth
Morris has recovered from flue play scrum half for Liverpool. Wallace's return means MacNaughton moves to the wing. Scott leads Blackheath from full back because Fenby is injured: Clarke hooks with Slater and Smith in midfield.

Rugby v London Irish
Howard returns to Rugby's wing but Vaudin is not yet eligible for league matches and Gilbodly plays full back. The Irish are weakened by representative calls, Hewitt moving to full back and Egan, O'Hara and Gibson making up the back row.

Northampton v Coventry
Alston plays No. 8 for the unavailable Rodber and Carr joins him in Northampton's back row, hoping Woodrow will be fit to play centre. Coventry have Thomas at scrum half.

Waterloo v Richmond
Hackett makes a welcome return as Waterloo's hooker, with Brookman on the flank and Cropper preferred for his goal-kicking and defence on the wing. Richmond have four regulars injured and two more ineligible so Morris comes into the centre and Smedley to the wing.

Other match
Cardiff v Pontypool
Griffiths and Watkins return to Cardiff's front row, with Collins at flanker and Ring (centre) but Hall is likely to be missing. Staff Jones makes his first appearance since a January suspension in Pontypool's front row.

ICE SKATING

Nightmare has dream finish for Browning

From John Hennessy, Halifax, Nova Scotia

It all came right in the end for Kurt Browning, a figure skater in the highest Canadian traditions. He has lived through a nightmare of a season, as the holder of the men's world title, infirm of body and empty of international achievement.

His only success had been in the Canadian championship, and even then there were those who felt that the title should have gone to Elvis Stojko.

They may have been influenced by Stojko's appealing youth, at 17, and by his evocative first name.

All this was forgotten on Thursday night when Browning, six years Stojko's senior, put his young compatriot and all others emphatically in their place.

The fears about Victor Petrenko, the Soviet winner of the silver medal, lacking stamina and perhaps total commitment proved justified. Skating first in the last group, he opened strongly enough, with a stunning combination of triple axel to triple toe loop and followed that with a glittering triple lutz.

A double salchow signalled the first sign of doubt and a double loop reinforced it. Five triples, even with his enviable purity of edge, were not going to be enough if Browning could rise to his duty before an adoring massed audience.

He did not fail them, not unless you censure him for ducking his opening quadruple toe loop. Since he is the only person to have achieved it in competition that would have been unreasonable.

He went on to execute five other clean triple jumps, not counting his second axel, which was faulty, and triumphantly proved his point.

Results, page 53

Champion's applause: Browning returns the crowd's ovation

FISHING

Legislators in a quandary

By Conrad Voss Bark

Five years ago the Government announced, rather naively, that it was going to "outlaw" salmon poaching; naively because it had already been outlawed by William the Conqueror. However, we know what was meant and the intention was good, if the application was not quite so good.

The civil servants got to work, read up the reports on the subject (Hunter, 1964; Bledisloe, 1961; Maconocie, 1949) and produced a Bill that would stop black market dealings in salmon in Scotland by having a system of registered dealers. When it was pointed out to the Government that to apply it only to Scotland was illogical, they agreed to extend the idea to England and Wales.

Dealer licensing, therefore, became law in the Salmon Act, 1986. After a couple of years of consultations the civil servants came to the conclusion that dealer licensing was unworkable.

It was not only big business which was against it, as the Salmon and Trout Association has suggested, but small businesses as well, retail fishmongers and hotels, among others.

But perhaps even more important, if possible, than the lack of a consensus was the growing conviction that, though dealer licensing might change the direction of the black market, it was doubtful whether it would limit its extent. It was a pity that this had not been discovered before dealer licensing became law.

Both the association and the Atlantic Salmon Trust are now urging the Government to bring in an effective alternative to dealer licensing. There are, however, doubts whether there is one.

Another scheme, put forward by the National Water Council — that each legally caught salmon should be tagged and it would be illegal to sell a salmon without a tag — was rejected by Whitehall.

The idea of clipping bits of metal on a salmon's fin created a great deal of hostility among fish farmers here and abroad, who shuddered at the thought of tagging thousands of tons of fish a year, and Scottish lairds feared that tagging would be used to limit their catches and the income from their estates.

So now we are back to square one, the occasional capture and the inadequate fine in the courts. It must be difficult to know what to do next to deter this particular form of private enterprise. Our ancestors tried hanging, mutilation and transportation to Australia. This did not work either.

Law Report March 10 1990 Chancery Division

Claim for prescriptive profit attaches to claimant personally and not land

Lovett and Another v Fairclough and Others
Before Mr Justice Mummery
[Judgment March 1]

A claim for a prescriptive profit in gross at common law attached to the claimant personally, not to his land, and could not succeed if he failed to adduce evidence to show that either he and his ancestors, or *some other person* and his ancestors from whom the claimant acquired title to the profit, had enjoyed the profit from time immemorial or by lost modern grant.

Accordingly, the defendants, in the absence of a deed, were unable to rely on prescription to assert that they had acquired a right to fish for salmon in that part of the River Tweed which was in England.

Mr Justice Mummery so held in the Chancery Division when granting an injunction, until the hearing of an appeal, to the plaintiffs, Jennifer Lovett, and Wark Farms Ltd restraining the defendants, Richard Fairclough, Peter Thomas, William Francis Yate and Emerald Securities Ltd, from trespassing over the centre line of the River Tweed. Nominal damages were also awarded to the plaintiffs and the defendants' counterclaim was dismissed.

Mr Derek Wood, QC and Mr Seddon Cripps for the plaintiffs; Mr Benjamin Levy for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the dispute was about salmon fishing rights along a part of the River Tweed between Carham and Coldstream which had for many centuries formed the boundary between England and Scotland.

On the south bank of the river in Northumberland was the Wark estate of just under 1,000 acres. It was centred on the village of Wark-on-Tweed.

The plaintiffs who were entitled to the whole of the Wark estate claimed the exclusive right to fish for salmon by rod and line from the English bank and up to the centre line.

Those were called the South Wark Fishings which extended for about two and a quarter miles along the south bank of the river in the vicinity of Wark.

On the north bank, in Berwickshire was the Hirsel estate. The defendants who ultimately derived title from that estate, claimed that they were entitled to the right to fish for salmon by rod and line from the northern bank and in that part of the river which was in Scotland.

The plaintiffs did not dispute that claim. Those fishings were called Upper North Wark Fishings.

The issues

The issue in the action was whether the defendants also had the right to fish for salmon in common with the plaintiffs in a pool in the river known as Jeffreys Pool which lay on the southern side of the centre line of the river.

The plaintiffs contended that the defendants had no right to *fish there because they were* entitled to the bed of the pool and to the exclusive right to fish in the water flowing over it. They claimed that the bed of the pool was in its entirety situated in England.

They asked the court for a declaration that the defendants had no right to cross over the centre line into their fishery, for an injunction restraining them from trespassing and for damages.

The defendants denied that they had committed an act of trespass and asserted that they were entitled to a prescriptive right to fish in Jeffreys Pool in common with the plaintiffs, invoked a succession of estoppels to the same effect and counterclaimed for a declaration that they were entitled to enter and fish in Jeffreys Pool.

The parties were agreed that:
1 The north bank and adjacent bed of the river of Upper North Wark Fishings were in Scotland.
2 The south bank and adjacent bed of the river of South Wark Fishings were in England.
3 The boundary between England and Scotland ran along a line drawn somewhere between the two banks of the river.
4 The court did not have jurisdiction to determine an action between private individuals which had as its object the resolution of a dispute as to title to, or right to possession of immovable property situated in Scotland.
5 Rights in and over immovable property were generally governed by the law of the country where that property was situated.

The South Wark Fishings

The defendants did not dispute that the title deeds to the Wark estate were effective to vest in the plaintiffs the title to and right to possession of the bed and soil of that stretch of the river in so far as it was situated in England.

They accepted that that, *prima facie*, carried with it the right to fish for salmon in the water flowing above that part of the river bed.

The Wark estate, including those fishing and river rights was acquired by Sir Henry Samman on April 22, 1920 from the Earl of Tankerville.

The conveyance expressly included half of the bed or soil of the river. The plan attached to it showed the centre line of the river and the northern boundary of the estate as running just south of Jeffreys Island.

On November 29, 1960 Mr Rowland Lovett, the first plaintiff's father, acquired the Wark estate from Sir Henry Samman. Mr Lovett ultimately obtained vacant possession of the land about May 1981 following the death of a tenant.

The estate was vested in the joint names of Mr Lovett and his wife, Jane. By an agreement dated October 25, 1983 they granted a tenancy of the estate, including the river area and fishing rights, to their daughter, Miss Jennifer Lovett, the first plaintiff, and Wark Farms Ltd, the second plaintiff.

Finally, on November 5, 1984, Mr and Mrs Lovett conveyed to Miss Lovett the freehold in the Wark estate by reference to the conveyance in 1960.

Throughout the period of Mr and Mr Lovett's ownership the South Wark Fishings were fished mainly by fishing tenants and licensees of the estate. After long breaks from fishing since the mid-sixties Miss Lovett resumed fishing at South Wark only last year. Mr Lovett died on November 5, 1985.

Upper North Wark Fishings

The plaintiffs did not dispute the defendants' claim to the possession of the Upper North Wark Fishings so far as those fishings were situated in Scotland.

His Lordship had no jurisdiction to determine the devolution of title to land or right to *fish in Scotland*.

The defendants did not claim that they had acquired any right under Scots law or by virtue of Scottish dispositions. They did not even claim to be entitled to the bank, bed or soil of any part of the River Tweed either in Scotland or England.

They claimed the right to fish in the river in Scotland and to fish in Jeffreys Pool. His Lordship was only concerned with the latter claim which was based on English law.

The defendants were members of an English partnership formed in June 1984 between three individuals and a British Virgin Islands company to carry on the salmon and sea trout fisheries known as Upper North Wark Fishings.

Title was acquired by them as a result of a disposition in Scottish form made in favour of the first defendant, Mr Richard Fairclough, on May 12, 1983 by Mr George Stott. Mr Fairclough held the rights acquired by him in trust for the partnership.

Mr George Stott acquired the fishing rights in the northern stretch of the river on August 27, 1970 from the personal representatives of his father, Mr Alan Stott, who had himself acquired the Upper North Wark Fishings by a disposition in Scottish form in his favour on February 11, 1961 by Douglas and Angus Estates, a company which, it was accepted, was controlled and owned by members of the Home family and had been heritable proprietor since January 24, 1983 of estates in Scotland formerly belonging to the thirteenth Earl of Home including the lands of Hirsel.

It was not disputed by any of the parties that, so far as they were concerned, the Douglas and Angus Estates was entitled to the northern bank of the river and to the river bed and soil of the Upper North Wark Fishings situated in Scotland.

Defendants' submissions

The defendants submitted that the plaintiffs were not entitled to prevent them and their tenants and licensees from fishing for salmon by rod and line in Jeffreys Pool and the exclusive right to fish in it.

1 They put the plaintiffs to proof of their title to and right to immediate possession of Jeffreys Pool and the exclusive right to fish in it.

2 They claimed to be entitled by common law prescription and lost modern grant to fish for salmon by rod and line in Jeffreys Pool without stint in common with the plaintiffs. As the right was not claimed to be appurtenant to any land in England (or in Scotland) it was a claim to a profit in gross.

3 The plaintiffs were estopped in perpetuity from asserting that the defendants had no such rights.

Facts

There was no serious conflict of evidence about fishing in Jeffreys Pool over the last 70 years or so. The facts were as follows:

1 From 1918 until 1961 Jeffreys Pool was fished for salmon without challenge by the present Lord Home of Hirsel and other members of the Douglas-Home family. Fishing was by rod and line from Jeffreys Island and also by boat moving from end to end downstream on the southern side of Jeffreys Island.

2 Jeffreys Pool was also fished from the southern bank and from a boat by the owners of South Wark Fishings, their tenants and licensees over the same period.

3 As from 1961 until September 1966 Mr Alan Stott fished the pool for salmon and also with his son Mr George Stott from 1962 until 1966.

4 Mr George Stott continued to fish until spring 1983 when he sold his rights in the Upper North Wark Fishings to Mr Richard Fairclough. The disposition to Mr Fairclough was in Scottish form and did not cover rights in or over land in England.

5 The dispute between the parties about Jeffreys Pool arose in 1983 when Mr Lovett and his daughter for the first time appreciated as a result of a survey in late 1982 that Jeffreys Island was intersected by the centre line in the river and that in fishing the Jeffreys Pool, boats from Upper North Wark Fishings were coming over to the south side of the centre line.

They therefore asserted by letter of October 3, 1983 a claim for trespass against the defendants. Prior to that Mr Alan Stott and after him Mr George Stott on the one hand and Mr Lovett on the other all believed mistakenly that boats from Upper North Wark Fishings could enter Jeffreys Pool and fish from there without crossing to the south of the centre line.

Title

In *order to succeed in a claim* for trespass the plaintiffs had to establish that they were entitled to immediate and exclusive possession of the river bed lying below the water in Jeffreys Pool.

For that purpose they relied on their title deeds and on the presumption that in the case of a non-tidal river such as the Tweed at that point and in the absence of evidence to the contrary:

1 the boundary of their estate lay in the middle of the river;
2 the bed of the river up to the centre line belonged to them as riparian owners, and
3 as the owners of the bed they were also owners of the fishing in the water above it.

His Lordship said that the position of the boundary along that very stretch of the river had already been the subject of a judicial decision in the House of Lords in litigation between the predecessors in title of the plaintiffs and the defendants: see *Duke of Roxburgh v Earl of Home* ((1774) 2 Paton 358) where it was successfully argued that:

"The boundary on the River Tweed between England and Scotland is and always has been *a line drawn along the middle of* the river. Whatever happens on the south side of that line must be governed by the laws of England; and whatever is done on the north side of that line must be regulated by the laws of Scotland."

That argument must have been accepted since the House reversed the decision of the Court of Session.

The boundary line between England and Scotland was therefore settled between the parties since the defendants derived their title ultimately from the Earl of Home and the plaintiffs from the Earl of Tankerville who was also a party to the case.

Further there was no difficulty in ascertaining the geographical position of the centre line. It had been plotted on every edition of the Ordnance Survey maps since 1858. The current edition showed that the middle line ran to the north of Jeffreys Pool and intersected the southern part of the shore of Jeffreys Island.

His Lordship concluded therfore that the plaintiffs had established that they were entitled to immediate possession of the bed of Jeffreys Pool and, subject to the claims of prescription and estoppel, the right of fishing for salmon in the water flowing over it.

Prescriptive profit in gross

The defendants' main line of defence assumed that the bed of Jeffreys Pool was in England and that the plaintiffs were entitled to immediate possession *of it and to the fishing in* it, but asserted that they had acquired a right to enter the pool in a boat and to fish in it for salmon by rod and line in common with plaintiffs.

They claimed a profit in gross of piscary in common and without stint.

In his Lordship's judgment they had failed to establish such a right. There were two serious difficulties in the way of that contention which both stemmed from the fact that they were claiming a profit in gross and not a profit appurtenant to any land of theirs:

1 The fact that there was no deed vesting the profit in them and executed in their favour by a person entitled to such a profit in gross.

2 They were not entitled to make good the absence of such a deed by simply adding up the years during which persons other than themselves had fished in Jeffreys Pool.

No deed

No one who might be entitled to a profit in gross over Jeffreys Pool had executed a deed granting that right to the defendants. The dispositions of the Upper North Wark Fishings were all documented in Scottish form relating to land, or rights over land, in Scotland and not to land in England such as Jeffreys Pool.

The defendants coud not therefore claim any right from Mr George Stott in reliance on the 1983 disposition by him.

As regards a deed and assignment dated February 14, 1990 made by the Douglas and Angus Estates in favour of Mr Fairclough — that deed did not vest in the defendants a profit in gross to fish in Jeffreys Pool since it could only be effective to vest in Mr Fairclough such right, if any, as the company had over land in England. It had none.

No prescription

The defendants sought to overcome the lack of a deed by relying on long user based on common law prescription or lost modern grant.

The defendants accepted that they could not succeed by simply relying on user by themselves and their tenants since that only began in 1983.

They therefore also relied on the acts of Mr George Stott and his father which added together extended over more than 20 years. They further relied on the acts of Lord Home and members of the Douglas-Home family.

That argument was fallacious. It ignored the crucial difference between a profit which was appurtenant to land and a profit in gross which conferred benefits on a person as such and not as owner of land.

Adverse possession

It was true that in cases of adverse possession a squatter could transfer to a purchaser a right to the land as good as his own. A person lacking a squatter's interest in the land could add the squatter's prior period of possession to his own period of possession if and when he pleaded the Limitation Act in defence to a claim by the true owner to recover possession of the land.

That was not a good general analogy. It ignored the fundamental distinction between limitation and prescription. Prescription was acquisitive whereas limitation was extinctive.

The difference could be illustrated by the fact that in the period of long user during which there was a potentiality of acquiring an easement or profit the person prescribing, unlike the squatter, had no interest known to or protected by law.

There was either an easement or profit or there was not: see *Greenhalgh v Brindley* ([1901] 2 Ch 324, 328).

In the case of easements and profits appurtenant to land the user relied on for prescription, so long as it had been continuous and uninterrupted, need not have been exercised by the same person throughout the whole period.

The periods of user by different owners could be added together and relied upon by the person whose right was challenged.

In his Lordship's judgment that exercise was not permissible in the case of a plea of a prescriptive profit in gross because the prescription was in the person, not for the benefit of the land. What had to be pleaded in a prescriptive claim to a profit in gross was that the claimant "and all his ancestors, whose heir he is" from time immemorial used to have the right in question.

Alternatively, if the claimant was not claiming personally or through his ancestors but through an assignment he had to allege user by the assignor or the grantor and his ancestors from time immemorial or by virtue of a lost modern grant: see *Welcome v Upton* ((1839) 5 M W 398); ((1840) 6 M W 536).

In the present case the defendants could not rely on user of Jeffreys Pool by Mr George Stott and his father or by Lord Home and members of the Douglas-Home family.

Further, in the absence of an assignment of a profit in gross over Jeffreys Pool by Mr George Stott the defendants were not entitled to rely on alleged prescriptive user by Mr George Stott and his ancestors.

Estoppel

Despite pleas to the fairness and justice of the case and despite the flexibility of the doctrine of estoppel in its different forms, the defendants had failed to establish that in all the circumstances it was unconscionable or inequitable for the plaintiffs to exercise their legal rights in Jeffreys Pool against the defendants.

Trespass by fishing from Scotland

The plaintiffs claimed an injunction restraining the defendants from trespassing over the centre line of the River Tweed. The only act relied upon was that of a servant or agent of the defendants rowing over the centre line into Jeffreys Pool and fishing there.

The parties were, however, agreed that there might be occasions when those using the Upper North Wark Fishings might wish to stand on that part of Jeffreys Island which was in Scotland or on the smaller island downstream also in Scotland and, if it was lawful to do so, to cast a line into Jeffreys Pool to fish there.

His Lordship was asked to decide whether that would fall within the terms of the injunction claimed. He decided it would.

Whether the act complained of would be a trespass had to be determined by English law since he had held that the bed of the pool was in England. That was so even though the act which resulted as a possible trespass originated with a person standing in Scotland and casting his line from there.

Solicitors: Travers Smith Braithwaite; Payne Hicks Beach

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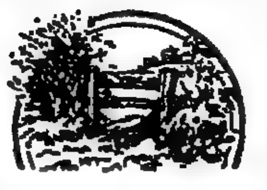

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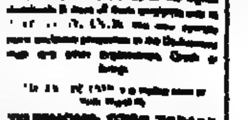

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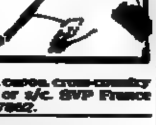

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Continued on next page

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● JEWELS IN TAIWAN'S CROWN
● EUROPEAN GUIDE TO FESTIVALS

TRAVEL

Life beyond the ferry terminals

Robin Young leads the way to the good life in the Pas-de-Calais

One of the greater calumnies uttered recently by British Rail spokesmen and government ministers is that the French are ahead with their Channel Tunnel rail links because "Kent is the garden of England, and the Pas-de-Calais is a wasteland."

Let us nail this one. Geologically the Pas-de-Calais is Kent's close relative, and scenically it is no less lovely. The white cliffs of Dover are outshone on the opposite shore, even if the French, with modest realism, have the honesty to call theirs Gris Nez. The hinterland to Boulogne and Calais — valleys, woods, downs, dunes and marshland — is designated a regional park, and it rewards exploration with unexpected delights.

One such is La Maison de la Houve, a guesthouse out on the open hills at Audinghen, between Calais and Boulogne and just inland from Cap Gris Nez. Here Madame Danel defies the elements to surround her converted *fermette* with gardens and rosebeds. The guest rooms are confections of lace and flowery wallpapers, each named after one of the varieties of rose grown outside and taking that flower as its theme.

I doubt there is a guesthouse in Kent to match it for charm, and if there is it will be severely beaten on price, because Madame Danel charges just £15 for her best rooms — including breakfast — *and children stay free*. There is a convivial informality about the place (none of the rooms has a key, and Madame Danel is apt to be called away to the phone while she does her bit for the local Samaritans). The lounge and breakfast room, with big picture windows overlooking the gardens on the sheltered side of the main house, are international friendship centres on a miniature scale.

Madame Danel does not do meals other than breakfast — but at Wimille nearby there is a restaurant finer than any I know in Kent. The Relais de la Brocante is run by two veterans of the sadly declined Atlantic at Wimereux, but it serves food of greater originality and inventiveness than was ever attempted there.

In Boulogne there are two bits of good news. One is the upgrading of the bedrooms at the Hostellerie de la Rivière, between the brook and the railway tracks at Pont-de-Briques. The Michelin-starred dining-room here has long rivalled, and often excelled, Boulogne's most famous restaurant, La Matelote on the seafront. Pierre Martin is a wizard at *feuilleté*, and now he and his wife have eight rooms, mostly at around £30 for two, which bear comparison with the standard of the £14 to £28 menus. The most seductive is number 10, a double at £32.

More glad tidings concern the installation of the Leuleu family, formerly of the Manoir at Hesdin l'Abbé, in Chez Jules, the large brasserie on the lower side of Place Dalton, the square which serves as Boulogne's Saturday market place. They have revitalized it and the restaurant, and made it into a lively, professional place worthy of its prime location — a good destination for large families, office parties and lovers of heavy-laden plateaux of *fruits de mer*.

If you have not done it before, take time to explore Boulogne's old town and to walk the ramparts. The museum, newly and attractively fitted into the handsomely repaired château, has some explanatory texts in English (more are promised) and benefits from bequests of local worthies' collections of faience, crystal and paintings (13 Corots, and representative pictures by Boudin and Sisley). Exhibits in the guardroom include, as the notice accurately states, "Holy Paraphernalia", and at the entrance you may see the old musical hall song sheet for Mr Lionel Barry's affectionate and popular ditty, *Gay Boulogne*. ("Oh! Boulogne's the place to be. . . If it weren't for my wife and 14 children I wouldn't go home any more.")

If, unlike the melodious Mr Barry, you do tire of the town there are villages and unspoiled hamlets to explore in the valleys of the Course, the Canche, the Slack (yes, really) and the Wimereux, buried among the rolling Boulonnais hills. Among the prettiest are Le Wast (with a fine Gothic church), Wierre Effroy, Pernes, Crèmarest in the forest of Desvres, and Wirwignes in the forest of Boulogne. For the pretty routes between Calais and Boulogne take the coast road, D940, in one direction and return via Guines and Rebertinque (D127) or, better still, Ardres, Licques and Hermelinghen (D224 and 191).

If time allows, go as far as the hilltop town of Montreuil wth its cobbled streets and single-room cottages, where the Château de Montreuil hotel will shortly be reopening after last year's disastrous fire; or take a meal at the quaintly charming Auberge de la Grenouillère at La Madelaine-sous-Montreuil, another quondam *fermette* — by a sleepy, willow-hung river this time — where the four bedrooms have been splendidly refurbished. The best is number 4, a timbered duplex at £43 a night without breakfast.

Or, for more surprises, head for St Omer and book in at the British-owned Hôtel Château Tilques just outside the town (doubles £40 to £53). The hotel lawns, lake and skirting river are enlivened by a collection of exotic wildfowl (black and white swans, barheaded and Magellan geese and sheldducks) and the stable block has been converted into a fine restaurant where the chef, Jean-Marc Arcangeli, cooked food no less divine than the name suggests.

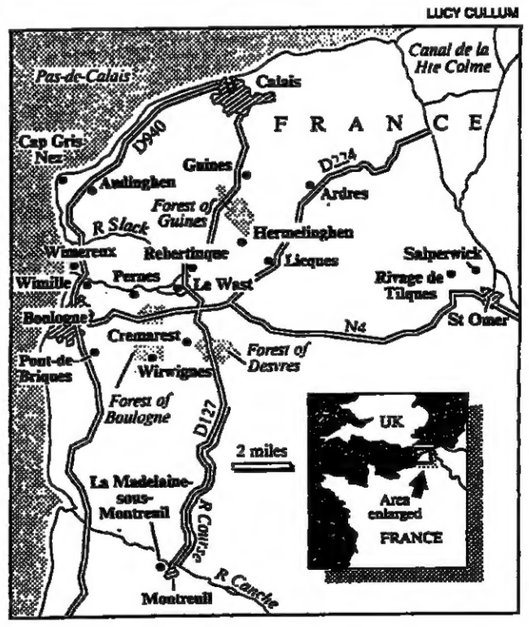
From Madame Lalart at the Pont de la Guillotine on the Rivage de Tilques or from the nearby hamlet of Salperwick one may hire by the hour or day a *bacôve*, a traditional flat-bottomed boat like a punt, used hereabouts in the Audomarois marshland to raise and transport some of the finest carrots, leeks and cauliflowers grown in France.

The boats are powered by little electric outboard motors, and as you push along the maze of canals you pass alert grey herons, kingfishers, and marsh harriers, as well as boat-borne horticulturalists and housewives on their watery way to and from St Omer market.

PHILIP DUNN

Solitary pleasures: Hardelot Plage, just outside Boulogne, is in refreshing contrast to the busy beaches of south-east England, just the other side of the Channel, and has a hinterland of valleys, woods downs, dunes and marshland

LUCY CULLUM



TRAVEL NOTES

● La Maison de la Houve, 62179 Audinghen par Wissant (010.33.21.32.97.06).
● Relais de la Rivière, 62126 Wimille (010.33.21.83.19.31).
● Hostellerie de la Rivière, closed Sunday evening and Monday (010.33.21.32.22.81).
● Chez Jules, open 8am to midnight (2am in summer) (010.33.21.31.54.12).
● Auberge de la Grenouillère, 62170 Montreuil-sur-Mer (010.33.21.06.07.22).
● Hôtel Château Tilques, 62500 St Omer (010.33.21.93.28.99).
● Mme. Lalart boat hire: (010.33.21.95.10.19).

TRAVEL NEWS

Thomas Cook reports that we are spending 20 per cent more on our holidays this year. Britain's second largest travel agency says bookings for Florida are exceptionally heavy. Also selling well are Cyprus, the Greek islands of Skiathos, Mykonos, Skopelos and Poros and camping in France. So don't expect late bargains on any of these. If there are to be late discounts this summer, expect to find them on holidays to Spain and the Portuguese Algarve, Corfu and Turkey, none of which has sold well.

Skiing conditions described as brilliant prevail across the Alps, but there are special offers to be found. Lunn Poly shops have a selection of holidays departing from next weekend to Austria, Andorra and the Italian Alps. Resorts are allocated on arrival at the continental airport (from £165 a week, half-board). John Morgan (01-584 6523) has half-price skiing for under-16s in all its chalets in Flaine, Megeve, Saas Fee and La Plagne from now until Easter. Crystal (01-399 5144) has new capacity in Breckenridge, Colorado — two weeks in a de luxe condominium from £665. Crystal also has one-week ski trips to Kitzbbuhel, St Anton, Soll and Mayerhofen from £129, departing next Saturday.

Knitting, weaving and spinning are the subjects of a series of tours called "Wool and the Wonders of Scotland". Each group is accompanied by a working designer and meets experts as diverse as a farmer of angora and cashmere goats, and weavers who dye their own wool with colours made from local flowers. Prices for the two-week holidays average £1,650. Contact the Rowan Travel Company (0484 681795).

Shona Crawford Poole
Travel Editor

Continued from page 42

ENTERTAINMENTS

FORTUNE Box Office & cc 836 2238 24hr cc bkg fee 240 7200 CHARLES DOMINIC KAY LETTS Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian "MASTERLY" Exp CHILLING" Ind "GRIPPING" FT "FIRST RATE" Ind "TAKE TRANQUILLIZERS" T Out SECOND TERRIFYING YEAR! Evgs 8 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4 NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

GARRICK 01 379 6107 Inc cc bg fee All bkg fee 01 497 9977/379 4444/741 9999 Royal National Theatre Production IAN McKELLEN MICHAEL CASHMAN in BENT by MARTIN SHERMAN directed by SEAN MATHIAS "erotic and moving" FT "a demanding and fascinating play" Obs Evgs 8.00 Sat Mat 4.00

GLOBE THEATRE BO (CC) 01-437 3667 "MICHAEL GAMBON and PETER BOWLES ARE SUPERB in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S MASTERLY COMEDY" S Times MAN OF THE MOMENT Mon-Fri Evgs 7.45. Matinees Wed 3.0 Saturdays 5.0 & 8.30

MAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 01 930 9832 cc 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 bkg fee Groups 01-240 7941 PAUL EDDINGTON "marvellous performance" Ind ANGELA THORNE "lights up the stage" Today In "Sam Mender" (the production" Ind of Dion Boucicault's "enchanting comedy" D Tel LONDON ASSURANCE Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 4 ENDS NEXT SAT

HER MAJESTY'S Box Office 839 2244 CC 240/ 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA JAMES PATERSON JILL ROBERT WASHINGTON MEADMORE Ivan Berkis plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Now Bkg thru 1990 to Mar 1991 POSTAL APPLICATIONS ONLY

MAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL BO 930 9832 (no bkg fee) CC 497 9977/379 444 4/741 9999 (bkg fees) Groups 240 7941 AN EVENING WITH PETER USTINOV 20 MARCH to 29 APRIL PRESS NIGHT 21 MARCH 7pm Tues-Sat Eves 8pm Sun Mats 4pm FOR 36 PERFORMANCES ONLY

LONDON PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 JACKIE MASON FINAL DAY Mon to Fri 8pm Sat 7.0 & 9.30pm

LONDON PALLADIUM Box Office cc & groups 01-437 7373. cc's (with bkg fee) 01-379 4444, 01-240 7200, 01-741 9999. Groups 01-930 6123 Previews from March 23 OPENS MARCH 28 at 7.30 PAUL NICHOLAS and BONNIE LANGFORD in the smash hit Broadway musical THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE by Gilbert & Sullivan "A rollicking, swashbuckling, delightful show" Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed. & Sat 2.30 LIMITED SEASON ONLY

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave 437 3686 cc (no bkg fee) 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 / 741 9999 Grps 240 7941 JERRY HALL SHAUN CASSIDY DAVID HEALY in BUS STOP "WEST END MAGIC" Std "A WINNER" S Corres Mon Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5 & 8.45

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311 (cc no bkg fee 01 836 3464) Last Chance to See 4.0 & 7.45 HANOVER SQUARE Studio 01 741 8701 Evgs 8.0 Mat Sat 3.30 THE VANEK PLAYS by Vaclav Havel.

NATIONAL THEATRE 01 928 2252 Grps 01 620 0741 24 hr cc bkg fee: 240 7200 OLIVIER Today 1.30 & 7.00 PEER GYNT Ibsen. Mon 7.15 THE GOOD PERSON OF SICHUAN Brecht. LYTTELTON Ton't, Mon 7.30 (PREVIEWS) SUNBAT IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE Sondheim. COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.30, Mon 7.30 RACING DEMON Hare.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC 404 4079 OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS SEATS NOW AVAIL FOR EVE PERFS & TUE MATS FROM MAY ONWARDS SINGLE'S AVAIL FROM MARCH Group Bookings 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567. NOW BKG TO SEPTEMBER

OLD VIC Box Office & cc 928 7616. CC (with bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 Mon-Fri 7.30, Wed mat 2.30, Sat 4.00 & 7.45 THE LIAR by Pierre Cornelle Directed by Jonathan Miller "BRILLIANTLY FUNNY" Times "A THOROUGH DELIGHT" D.Tel. LAST TWO WEEKS!

OLD VIC Box Office & CC 928 7616 Agents with bkg fee 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999. Groups 930 6123. Previews from 29 March MARYA by Isaac Babel adapted by Christopher Hampton from translation by Michael Cacoyannis & Harold Shukman "A powerful play of the early years of the Russian Revolution"

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 Groups 494 1671 "THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval "FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC NOW BOOKING TO SEPTEMBER APPLY TO BOX OFFICE DAILY FOR RETURNS

PHOENIX Charing Cross Road. WC2 01-836 2294 cc 240 9561 867 1111 (no bkg fee) 01-240 7200/01-741 9999/01 379 4444 (all bkg fee) STEVEN BERKOFF "mesmeric...hypnotic" Sun Exp In Gustav Wilson's SALOME "a glittering masterpiece" Indp Mon-Fri 8pm Sat 5pm & 8.15pm STRICTLY LIMITED SEASON

PICCADILLY 867 1119 cc 867 1111/379 4444 (no bkg fee) 741 9999 bkg fee KING THE MUSICAL The story of Martin Luther King Jr whose words "I HAVE A DREAM" Awoke the conscience of a nation KING a story of betrayal, courage, love and freedom Previews from 31 March Opens 11 April

PLAYHOUSE BO & CC 01-839 4401 cc 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999 Groups 240 7941 JOSIE ACKLAND JULIAN GLOVER in NEVER THE SINNER Prevs fr 20 Mar. Opens 29 Mar 7pm Eves 7.45, Wed & Sat mats 3pm (no mats 21 & 28 Mar) NB GREAT PLAYHOUSE

PLAYHOUSE BO & CC 839 4401 cc 240 7200 bkg fee Group Sales 930 6123 Mon-Sat 8pm DONALD SINDEN "Makes it a WIlde success" Std as OSCAR WILDE "DAZZLING. COMPELLING. HEARTSTOPPING & MARVELOUS" Jack Tinker. Daily Mail ENDS NEXT SAT FROM TO NATIONAL TOUR ALL GROUP PLAYHOUSE

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee) 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 240 7941 ELAINE PAIGE BERNARD CRIBBINS & JOHN BARROWMAN in ANYTHING GOES "THE HOTTEST SHOW IN TOWN!" Daily Express "I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT IT" Daily Mail Choreographed by MICHAEL BENNETT Directed by HENRY ZAKS Eves 7.30 Mats Thur & Sat 2.30 CAST ALBUM AVAILABLE ON FIRST NIGHT RECORDS NOW.

PRINCE OF WALES Box Office 01 839 5972 CC First Call 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 (bkg fee)/Open All Hours 379 6131 (bkg fee) "TOPPING ANYTHING ON BROADWAY" Time Magazine ASPECTS OF LOVE "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D Tel Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART Directed by TREVOR NUNN Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 Queue daily for returns. Strictly no admittance by latecomers NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

QUEENS BO 734 1166/379 4444 /741 9999/240 7200 AT NO EXTRA FEE. GROUPS 930 6123 BECKY JANE HAWTHORNE LAPOTAIRE SHADOWLANDS 3 OLIVIER AWARD NOMINATIONS BEST PLAY BEST ACTOR BEST ACTRESS Eves 8.00 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

ROYAL COURT 730 1745 cc 836 2428 BUY BEAUTY" A SUITCASE by Clare McIntyre. Eves 8.00. Sat Mat 4.00. Now bkg to March 24

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 28TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP.

STRAND THEATRE 01-836 4143 01-836 2660 01-836 5190 Opening March 22 at 7.00 Harold Fielding's World Premiere Production Of SOMEONE LIKE YOU A Musical Love Story starring PETULA CLARK DAVE WILLETTS CLIVE CARTER Music by PETULA CLARK Lyrics by DEE SHIPMAN Book ROBIN MIDDLEY & FAY WELDON Reduced Price Previews March 15,16,17,19,20,21 at 7.30 Sub Evgs 7.30 Mats Weds & Sats 2.45 INSTANT BOOKING 24 HOUR A DAY Through FIRST CALL on 01-497 9977 No Booking Fee Also Book (with Booking Fee) Through All Usual Agents

STRATFORD UPON AVON. Box Office and cc (0789) 295623. ROYAL SHAKSPEARE THEATRE: Gala Evening with Richard Briers and Peter Stephens Sun: 7.30pm. Rik Mayall: 14th March 7.30pm. SWAN THEATRE: Winter Visitors Season until 17th March. Booking now open for RSC 1990 season. For free leaflet phone (0789) 205301. (Office hours only).

VAUDEVILLE BO & CC 836 9987 cc (no bkg fee) 240 7200/379 4444/741 9999. Mon-Fri 7.45. Wed mat 3.0. Sat 5.0 & 8.15 MARTIN JARVIS "a perfectly splendid central performance" D. Mail in MICHAEL FRAYN'S "superbly playable translation of Yael Tribesov's "splendidly observed play" Tms EXCHANGE "THERE'S THE MARVELLOUS THE POWER & POIGNANCY" Obs. "A FINE PRODUCTION OF A MAJOR WORK" Ind on Sunday

VICTORIA PALACE 01-834 1317 CC 01-379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 "It's Buddy Brilliant" Sun "Sheer unadulterated fun — I love this show" Sun Exp. The man. The Music. The Legend. BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story A NEW MUSICAL "Wonderful Stuff" Sun Tel. "I Loved it" Fin Times. Mon-Thurs 8.00 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAYS 5.30 PERF

WHITEHALL S 867 1119 867 1111/379 4444/741 9999. Grps 867 1113. Eves 8 Thu mat 2.30 Saturday 5.30 & 8.30 "BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" Daily Mail The Theatre of Comedy Company Eric Sykes Terry Scott Leslie Lawton Jacqueline Clarke Judy Graham Paul Teshmit Michael Cotterill Ron Aldridge RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDON'S LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY written and directed by RAY COONEY Over 2,900 nail-biting perfs "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S.Exp

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE 01-867 1116 cc 01-867 1111/379 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 01-867 1113 Groups 01-240 7931 ALBERT FINNEY "devastating tour de force"D Mail JANET SUZMAN "quite magnificent" Ind SARA KESTELMAN "brilliant" FT DAVID de KEYSER "superb" Std CHRISTIEN ANSIOLT "excellent" D Tel ANOTHER TIME "by far the best new play of the year ... serious and funny" D Tel. "really Ronald Harwood's best work since 'The Dresser'" FT. "Elijah Moshinsky's impeccable direction" S Tms Eves 8 Mats Wed 3 & Sat 4 LAST 3 WEEKS

ART GALLERIES

PICCADILLY GALLERY 16 Cork St, W.1. 629 2875 MAX BEERBOHM 1872-1956 watercolours & drawings 6th March-12th April Mon-Fri 10-5.30 Sats 10-12.30

AGNEW'S 117th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION - OPENS 12 MARCH 9.15 am. Then 9.30 - 5.30 Mon-Fri. Then until 6.30 Closes 6 April. 43 OLD BOND ST. LONDON. W1. 01-629 6176.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, PICCADILLY W1. RECORDED INFO 01-439 4996/7. FRANK HALS BRIDGET JONES: ARCHITECT - LAST TWO DAYS Open Daily 10-6 Inc.Sun (reduced rate 5pm until 1.45). Audioslide: NO LIFT ACCESS

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp. Camden Tube 485 2443 GERARD DEPARDIEU in BLEER'S TROP BELLE POUR TOI (18) Progs. 2.20 4.25 6.35 8.50. Awarded 5 FRENCH OSCARS. "ENORMOUSLY ENTERTAINING" City Limits.

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 GERARD DEPARDIEU in BLEER'S TROP BELLE POUR TOI (18) Progs. 2.20 4.25 6.35 8.50. Awarded 5 FRENCH OSCARS. "ENORMOUSLY COMIC" The Times. "SHEERLY ENTERTAINING" The Guardian.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 465 5865 PHILEPPE NOIRET in CINEMA PARADISO (PG) Film at 1.00 (last 9pm) 3.30 6.10 8.40. "Sha and mine" D Mail.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 KENNETH BRANAGH as MIDRIFF V (PG) Film at 2.45 6.50 8.30. NOMINATED FOR 3 OSCARS & 6 BAFTA AWARDS.

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805 DONALD SUTHERLAND MARLON BRANDO in A DRY WHITE SEASON (15) Film at 2.00 (last Sun) 4.10 6.20 & 8.40. "A GRIPPING FILM" D Telegraph

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 GERARD DEPARDIEU in BLEER'S TROP BELLE POUR TOI (18) Progs. 2.20 4.25 6.35 8.50 Late Night Fri/Sat 11.15pm. Awarded 5 FRENCH OSCARS. "MESMERISING" 20/20. "BALASKO IS SUPERB" The Guardian.

NEMOR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (Russell Square Tube) 837 8402 1. Aki Kaurismaki's LENINGRAD COWBOYS GO AMERICA (12) Progs. 1.50 3.35 5.25 7.20 9.15. 2. OSCAR NOMINATION BEST FOREIGN FILM Denys Arcand's JESUS OF MONTREAL (18) Progs 1.00 3.30 6.05 8.40. "BRILLIANT" S.Times. "OUTSTANDING" Observer.

Continued From Facing Page

U.K. HOLIDAYS

SCOTLAND

MERKINCHERRE historic estate Dunn 1 mile, Dower House sleeps 9/11. 3 baths + sep flat 2/4, cottage 7/9, 3 baths. All full CH, newly renovated. (0361) 83211, fax 83018.

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YORK Peaceful 17th C. Beamed en-suite flats. £17.50pp. The Grange. 0904 470780

GUIDE TO EUROPEAN FESTIVALS

When, where and how to enjoy the best music on offer on the Continent throughout the rest of this year, with details compiled by **Hilary Finch**

Musical box of delights

FRANK TEN NAPEL

On a happy note: the Vienna Music Festival, from May 12 to June 17, featuring new opera productions including Don Giovanni and a Hamlet theatre

MARCH

BUDAPEST SPRING FESTIVAL: Recitals, concerts, theatre and opera on both sides of the Danube.
March 16-25: Interkoncert Festivalbureau, PO Box 80, H-1366 Budapest (010 36 1179910), or through Danube Travel.

CUENCA RELIGIOUS MUSIC FESTIVAL: Cuenca's historic buildings are the venue for performances of Fauré and Bruckner by the Chapelle Royale, and Bach by the Dresden Phil.
March 13-19: Semanas de Musica Religiosa, Canónigos s/n, E-16001 Cuenca (010 34 66 212983).

APRIL

HETTA EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL: The northernmost festival of them all, high in Finnish Lapland above the Arctic Circle. Five days of sacred and baroque Easter music in church, chapel and hotel.
April 11-15: Kulttuuritoimisto, SF-99400 Enontekiö (010 358 696 51261).

SALZBURG EASTER FESTIVAL: Von Karajan's own festival celebrates the master with *Fidelio* and the *St Matthew Passion*, both conducted by Kurt Masur.
April 7-15: Osterfestspiele, Festspielhaus, A-5010 Salzburg (010 43 662 8045361).

MUNICH BIENNALE: Hans Werner Henze's exciting festival of new music-theatre includes Schweinitz's Luther opera *Patmos*, von Bose's *Dream Palace*, as well as puppet opera, ballet for tightrope walkers and concerts of contemporary music.
April 25-May 17: Münchner Biennale, Kellerstrasse 8, D-8000 Munchen 80 (010 49 89 4470101).

MONTE-CARLO PRINTEMPS DES ARTS: The festival of the beautiful people presents first European production since the 18th century of the original version of Handel's *Flavio*. Also, ballet, concerts and recitals by Berganza, Carreras and Norman.
April 13-May 10: 4 Rue des Iris, MC-98000 Monaco (010 33 93255804).

MAY

MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO: This year a *supermaggio* for the World Cup: five new operas and four open air events include *The Invisible City of Kitej*, Donizetti's *Parisina*, *Il trovatore*, *Mahagonny* and *Don Giovanni*. Ballet in the Roman amphitheatre at Fiesole and concerts by the Moscow Virtuosi, Studer, Cotrubas.
April 28-July 4: Teatro Comunale, Via Solferino 15, Florence (010 39 55 27791). JMB offers a variety of trips by air or sea from £239-£494. Lirica arranges accommodation and tickets for three to seven-night stays from £155-£618. Henebery offers a trip from June 18-24 at £495.

PRAGUE SPRING FESTIVAL: Celebrates Martinu this year, with productions of his *Comedy on a Bridge*, *The Miracle of Our Lady*, *The Greek Passion*, etc. Also recitals from Burchuladze and Schreier and a wide range of concerts.
May 12-June 2: Dum Umelcu, Alsovo Nabrezi 12, 11001 Prague (010 42 231 9281). Cedok offers three and seven-night trips from £349-£549. Henebery offers a seven-night trip at £439. Martin Randall offers a trip, May 12-19. Prospect departs May 23 for five nights at £750.

VIENNA SPRING FESTIVAL: New opera productions include *Don Giovanni*, with a *Hamlet* theatre-fest featuring East Berlin's *Hamletmaschine* and Cracow's *Hamlet IV*.
May 12-June 17: Wiener Festwochen, Friedrich-Schmidt Platz 4, 1080 Wien (010 43 222 5861676). Henebery offers a trip departing May 30 at £425. Tickets extra; will tailor-make.

BERGEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: The old Hansa port with its wooden warehouses and fish market hosts visits from the Leningrad Symphony, Olaf Baer, the Warsaw Baroque Soloists and the Minsk Ballet. Daily recitals in Greig's home at Troldhaugen.
May 23-June 3: PO Box 183, N-5001 Bergen (010 47 5 320400).
Prospect offers seven nights from May 24 at £715.

COPENHAGEN FESTIVAL OF BALLET AND OPERA: Ballets include *France/Dance* and *Manhattan Abstraction*; opera *Otello* and *The Tales of Hoffmann*. Also a production of *The Taming of the Shrew* with music by Scarlatti.
May 18-31: Danish Tourist Board, 169/173 Regent Street, London W1R 8PY (01-734 2637). Prospect offers a trip departing May 18 for six nights at £535.

ISRAEL FESTIVAL, JERUSALEM: Theme this year is Mediterranean Arts, focusing on the Sephardic music of Spain. Also the Moscow Taganka Theatre, *Boris* from Warsaw, the mime theatre of Yoram Boker and Israel Street Theatre Festival.
May 19-June 9: PO Box 4072, 91040 Jerusalem (010 57 2 667167). Travel arrangements through Peltours, 28 Achad Haam Street, Tel Aviv 65141 (010 972 3 650871).

MOSCOW STARS ARTS FESTIVAL: Moscow's three main theatres are taken over by nights of Pushkin, Gogol and Chekhov, with evenings of opera, dance and folk concerts.
May 5-13: Intourist offers a choice of trips.

SOFIA MUSIC WEEKS: May begins a long summer of events in Bulgaria, highlights of which include performances by the Göteborg Symphony, Poznań Boys Choir and Sofia National Opera.
May 24-June 24: Sofia Festival, Bulgaria Sq 1, BG-1414 Sofia (010 359 2 543041).

STOCKHOLM NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL: The most important event in Sweden, with orchestral and chamber music, drama, dance and improvisation. Music this year by Takemitsu, Rihm and Norgard.
May 12-18: Svenska Rikskonserter, Box 1225, S-11182 Stockholm (010 46 8 7914600).

JUNE

SETTIMANE MUSICALI INTERNAZIONALI, NAPLES: Founded by Salvatore Accardo, this festival has chamber music at its heart. This year an all-Beethoven concert will be conducted by Kurt Masur, with a concert performance of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* and a new production of *Cosi fan tutte* at the Teatro Mercadante.
June 4-26: Riviera di Chiaia 200, 80121 Napoli (010 39 81 7612857).

REYKJAVÍK BIENNALE: Theatre, music, dance, art and literature in Iceland's tiny capital. Visits from the San Francisco ballet and Polish avant-garde Cricot 2 with Tadeusz Kantor.
June 2-16: Gimli v, Laekjargötu, PO Box 88, 121 Reykjavík (010 354 1 612444).

BASHMET FESTIVAL: Yuri Bashmet, the great viola player, assembles his annual line-up of great and lesser-known musicians from East and West Europe. Not to be missed.
June 3-9: Bahnhof Rolandseck, Bad Godesberg, Bonn, West Germany.

KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL: Dmitri Sitkovetsky directs one of the summer's liveliest chamber music festivals, this year focussing on Bernstein, Gershwin, Mendelssohn and Weill.
June 24-July 7: SF-65610 Korsholm, Finland (010 358 61 222390).

HOHENEMS SCHUBERTIADE: Devoted to Schubert and his Lieder, this ever-expanding festival takes place in the historic palaces, churches and concert halls of the Vorarlberg. Artists include Fischer-Dieskau, Berg Quartet, Schreier, Fassbaender, Schiff.
June 16-July 1: Schweizer Strasse 1, Postfach 100, A 6845 Hohenems (010 43 55 762091).
Prospect offers four departure dates, from £605 including concerts and excursions. Martin Randall offers a tour combining concerts, art and architecture from June 16-22 at £695. Henebery goes from June 23-30 at £520 including tickets for four recitals. JMB offers a wide range of trips, by air and sea, from £342-£464.

HOLLAND FESTIVAL: Opera, dance, non-Western music and youth theatre: this year includes Prokofiev's *L'Ange de feu*, *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, and *La Clemenza* and *Idomeneo* from the English Baroque Soloists.
June 1-30: Kleine Gartmanplantsven 21, 1017 RP Amsterdam (010 31 20 276566).

DROTTNINGHOLM FESTIVAL: Held in the 18th-century court theatre on Lake Mälaren, where musicians play original instruments in period costume. New productions of *Iphigénie en Tauride*, *Die Entführung*, revivals of *La finta giardiniera* and Gluck's ballet *Don Juan*.
May 31-Sept 1: Drottningholms Slottsteater, Box 27050, 10251 Stockholm (010 46 86608225). JMB offers a wide range of trips from £389-£515.

ATHENS FESTIVAL: Three months of opera, ballet, ancient and modern theatre, centred on the Odeon of Herod Atticus. Visits from Leningrad Phil, Kurt Masur, Greek National Opera: *Nabucco* and *The Eumenides*.
June 21-Sept 25: Athens Festival, 1 Voukourestiou Street, GR-10564 Athens (010 30 1 3230049).

KUOPIO DANCE FESTIVAL: Finland's major dance festival takes as its theme Mediterranean and African dance culture.
June 3-10: Tulliportinkatu 27, SF-70100 Kuopio (010 358 71 221844).

ISTANBUL FESTIVAL: Performances in Byzantine and Ottoman sites of Mozart's *Il Seraglio*: also visits from the Scottish National Orchestra, Concerto Avenna of Warsaw, Dave Brubeck, Washington Ballet.
June 13-July 20: Yildiz Kültür ve Sanat Merkezi, Yildiz-Besiktas, TR-80700 (010 90 1 1604533).

GRANADA FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND DANCE: The Palacio de Carlos V, the Jardine de Generalife and the cathedral provide a splendid backdrop for visits from the Bavarian State Opera *(Salome)*, the Dance Theatre of Harlem,

Carreras, Yepes, and Sufi music from Turkey and Pakistan.
June 15-July 2: Dirección del Festival, Aptdo 64, E-18080 Granada (010 34 58 267442).

JOENSUU SONG FESTIVAL: Special year for this Finnish festival on North Karelia: collaboration with the Meeting of the World's Festival run by Performers and Artists for Nuclear Disarmament. On Midsummer's Night, a six-hour pop concert in the open air.
June 19-23: Koskikatu 9, SF-80101 Joensuu (010 358 73 201200).

SOPRON EARLY MUSIC DAYS: Concerts, conferences and courses in churches and palaces in and around this Hungarian border town.
June 23-July 1: Interart Festivalbureau, Vörösmarty ter 1, H-1366 Budapest.

ZURICH FESTIVAL: Presents a complete *Ring* cycle this year, with cast including Altmeyer and Salminen.
May 28-July 1: Präsidialabteilung der Stadt Zurich, CH-8022 Zurich (010 41 1 2163111). Prospect offers a trip from June 21 at £890 for 10 nights.

JYVÄSKYLÄ ARTS FESTIVAL: Finland's oldest uninterrupted multi-arts discussion forum takes as its theme *Europe, the Unknown*. Seminars, ethnic music, film, theatre and dance bring the festival into the city's parks and streets.
June 11-21: Kramsunkatu 1, SF-40600 Jyväskylä (010 358 41 615624).

JULY

VERONA OPERA FESTIVAL: Verona's open air arena this year hosts *Aida*, *Carmen*, *Tosca* and the ballet *Zorba il Greco*.
July 1-Aug 31: Ente Arena, Piazza Bra 28, I-37121 Verona (010 39 45 23520).
Henebery offers a trip from Aug 4-11 at £655 to include four operas; also combines with Venice (Aug 4-15) at £820. Prospect offers eight departure dates, staying in Vicenza from £590 for five nights. Brompton departs July 26-Aug 5, from £1,089 for half-board, three operas. JMB is the most flexible, offering air or sea, escorted or unescorted, from £269-£559. Lirica offers a seven-night stay from £640 excluding travel, but enterprisingly twinning with *La traviata* at La Scala.

LOCKENHAUS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL: Gidon Kremer's outstanding annual festival with musicians from East and West Europe.
June 30-July 15: Further details from Austrian National Tourist Office, 30 St George Street, London W1R OAL (01-629 0461).

SAVONLINNA OPERA FESTIVAL: The festival which raised the status of opera in Finland. This year revivals of *Aida*, Heininen's *The Knife*, *The Flying Dutchman*; also visits from the Tokyo Nikikai company with *Madama Butterfly* and *Shunkin-Sho*.
June 30-July 29: Olavinkatu 35, SF-57130 Savonlinna (010 358 57 514700). JMB offers air and sea trips from £461-£799.

MACERATA FESTIVAL: Set in the foothills of the Appenines, this open-air opera festival is gaining increasingly wide recognition. This year *Il trovatore*, *La Bohème*, *Cosi fan tutte*.
July 22-Aug 18: Arena Sferisferio, Piazza della liberta, Macerata (010 39 733 49500). Lirica offers four nights, accommodation and tickets, from July 26 at £340. JMB offers a wide range of trips from £244-£499. Brompton departs July 26-Aug 4 at £850 for half-board and three operas.

KUHMO CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL: One of Finland's most rewarding and intimate festivals, in a small lakeside town in the north-east, this year features Bach, Brahms and Hungarian chamber music, with visits from Korean musicians.
July 15-29: Kontiokatu 2A6, SF-88900 Kuhmo (010 358 86 520936).

DUBROVNIK FESTIVAL: Yugoslavia's medieval city on the South Adriatic is closed to traffic as a *mardi gras* atmosphere takes over. This year's guests include Caballé, Israel Symphony, and there will be a Slavonic Music Workshop.
July 10-Aug 25: Old Sigurate 1, 5000 Dubrovnik (010 38 50 27996).

BATIGNANO MUSICA NEL CHIOSTRO: Adam Pollock's enterprising festival offers rare and early opera in the cloister of a convent. This year celebrates Michael Tippett's eightieth birthday in Graham Vick's new production of *King Priam*.
July 24-Aug 15: Santa Croce, 58041 Batignano, Comune di Grosseto. (010 39 56 438096).

MUNICH FESTIVAL: Richard Strauss's own, this year with a new production of Orff's *Trionfi*: also Mozart, Strauss, Hindemith, Verdi, Wagner, etc.
July 6-31: Bayerische Staatsoper, Postfach 745, D-8000 München 1 (010 49 89 21851). JMB offers a wide range of trips from £189-£319.

MUSIC AT LAKE SILJAN: Sweden's folk music festival integrates the community's ancient traditions with hilltarm weddings, rowing, geology and botany days.
June 30-July 8: Musik vid Siljan, S-79500 Rättvik, (010 46 248 10290).

SUMMER AT SKÁLHOLT: The church at the site of Iceland's first bishopric resounds through the summer with recitals, chamber and choral music: this year new works by Haligrimsson, Thórkelsdóttir and Sigurbjörnsson.
July 14-Aug 19: Helga Ingolfsdóttir, Strönd, 225 Bessastadahrepp, Iceland (010 354 91 50859).

AIX-EN-PROVENCE FESTIVAL: Summer in Cézanne's Provence means opera in the courtyard of the Archbishop's Palace and recitals in the oleander-scented cathedral cloister. This year includes *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Don Pasquale*, *Il Seraglio* and *Les Indes Galantes*.
July-Aug: Bureau de Festival, Palais de l'ancien Archveché, 13100 Aix-en-Provence. (010 33 233781). Henebery offers a trip from July 20-26 at £370, tickets extra. JMB offers a wide range of trips by air or sea, from £276-£479.

ROSKILDE FESTIVAL: One of Europe's most important outdoor rock festivals, with a full programme of beat, blues, new wave, theatre and film.
June 29-July 1: Roskilde Festival, Parkvej 1-5, DK-4000 Roskilde (010 45 42 366613).

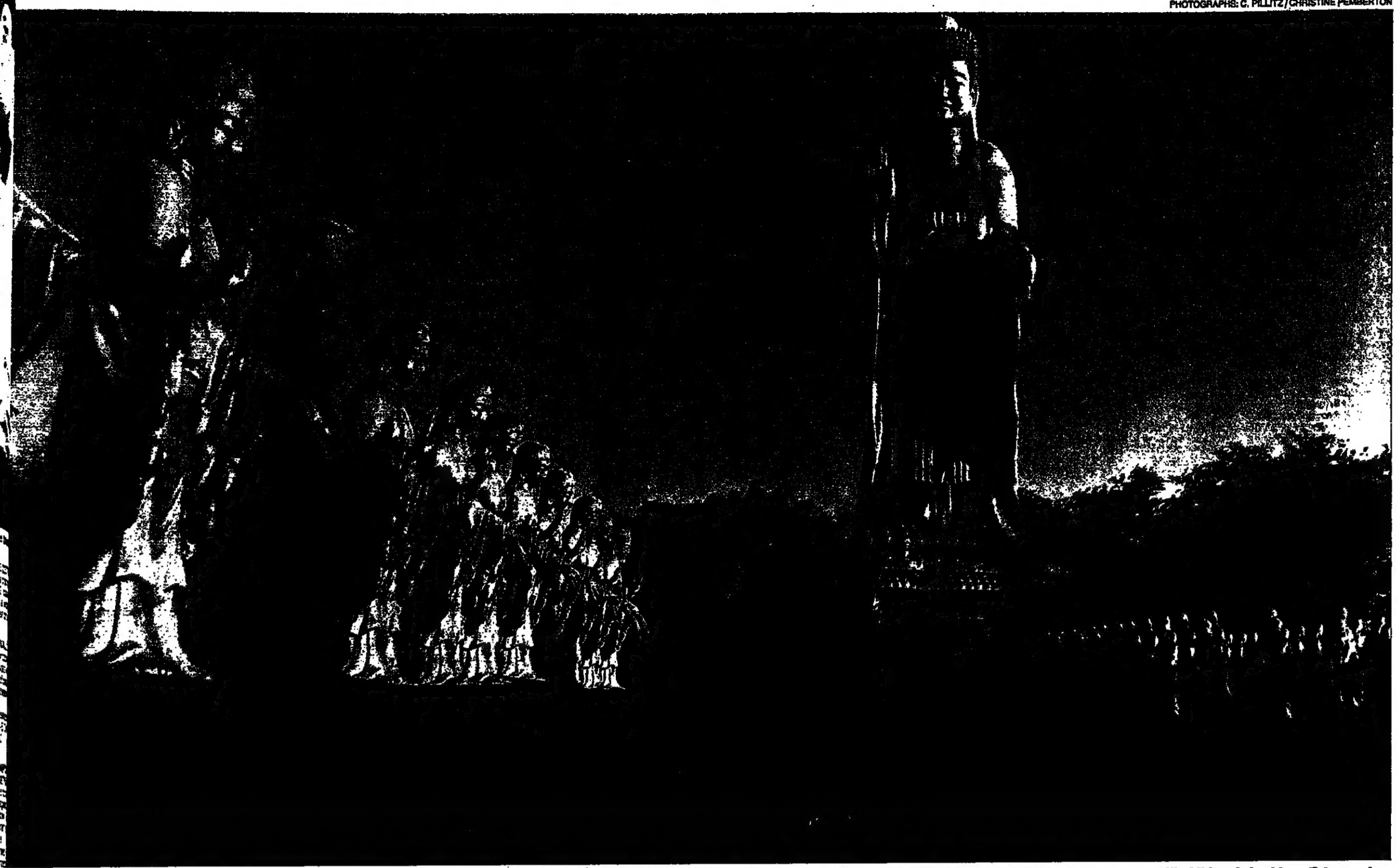
SZOMBATHELY BARTÓK SEMINAR AND FESTIVAL: Formed by Bartók's former students and colleagues, this important festival now includes contemporary and computer music in a programme of courses, workshops and concerts.
July 15-31: Interart Festivalbureau, Vörösmarty tér 1, H-1366 Budapest (010 36 1 1179910).

Continued next week

TRAVEL

Jewels in a tarnished crown

PHOTOGRAPHS: C. PILLITZ / CHRISTINE PEMBERTON



"Home of the gods": the tallest (105ft) Buddha statue in Taiwan, surrounded by a phalanx of 480 life-size images of disciples, dominates the southern countryside around the Light of Buddha Mountain, the centre of Buddhist scholarship, at Fokuang-shan

James Melville, in Taipei, braves the noisy, dollar-driven infancy of Taiwanese tourism

Imagine 60 or 70 Santa Clauses of both sexes in red satin smocks and trousers, with cotton-wool beards insecurely ...ng beneath the chin, leap-...g merrily about a high ...reet... then, in the same ...reet at the same time, an ...qual number of riot police ...arching grimly towards a ...adblock topped with ...icked, razor-barbed wire.

It so happens that Christ-...as Day in Taiwan is also ...onstitution Day, when the ...irs to the original old men of ...e Kuomintang Party ritually ...affirm the faith that led ...eneral Chiang Kai-shek and ...s followers to establish their ...st redoubt here. For most of ...e population, those events ...f their grandfathers' time are ...ncient history, yet it was only ...wo years ago that martial law ...as finally relaxed and a ...egree of legitimate political ...pposition permitted.

The result is a heady at-...osphere, at once exhilarat-...g and disconcerting, which ...ervades a society in the ...roes of breakneck economic ...evelopment.

Though you would never ...ess it from their repre-...entative office and crypto-...onsulate in London's Regent ...treet, Taiwan has a tourist ...ndustry. Nevertheless, it is ...ot a country to be sought out ...y the faint-hearted, the bud-...et-conscious or the environ-...entally sensitive. The infor-...ation provided for visitors ...n their hotel rooms places far ...ore emphasis on doing busi-...ess than on sightseeing. The ...atalogue of enterprises lists ...verything from contrivances ...or fixing wire around cham-...agne corks to do-it-yourself ...urgical instrument kits.

Taipei, the capital, is of ...ourse not the whole of Tai-...an, which in the south offers ...ural scenery and dedicated ...holiday resorts. The island is ...bout the size of The ...etherlands, with a youthful ...opulation rapidly approach-...g 20 million. Most are "Taiwanese", the descendants ...f the Chinese from Fukien ...rovince who colonized the ...land 300 years ago. They ...isplaced the indigenous people of whom some 300,000 survive as a tourist attraction.

The élite — the Taiwanese are accustomed to being dominated since the Japanese ran the place from the mid-1890s until the end of the Second World War — are the "mainlanders", who constitute the political establishment and still dream of reunification with China on their own terms — putting their New Taiwanese dollars where their mouths are by committing nearly 40 per cent of the national income to defence.

Taipei lies towards the northern tip of the island and is unquestionably where the action is. More than three million people live and work in what must be one of the noisiest, dirtiest and most polluted urban environments in the world. The traffic is locked pretty well solid day and night, but kamikaze taxi drivers and moped riders in their thousands hurl their vehicles into seemingly impossible spaces and get about somehow.

Taxi drivers are a special breed and most of the journey is enlivened by offers to drop in on the way to see a friend who can quote keen prices on genuine fake Cartier watches, Pierre Cardin umbrellas and other desirable accessories.

There are no shopping streets as such. Luxury hotels and exuberantly decorated restaurants are squeezed in cheek by jowl among open-fronted workshops in which men may be seen turning important-looking chunks of metal on lathes while Granny sits in the corner, amid showers of sparks, producing knitwear for export, with blithe disregard for industrial safety.

Military reminder: mainland China is only 81 miles away

Although reports of street crime are exaggerated, a lethal combination of potholes, carelessly parked motor-scooters and assorted debris cancels any idea of a quiet stroll. Even the occasional tree looks unequal to the struggle for survival. Retailing is mostly carried out on "pile 'em high, sell 'em cheap" lines, and the art of window-dressing is in its most nascent form.

The city boasts few major buildings. One is the enormous and spectacularly vulgar Grand Hotel; another is the Chiang Kai-shek memorial hall, a third the main railway station, which contains a variety of boutiques and restaurants. Here the fashion-conscious young may shop for the fake leopard-skin hot pants and pendulous ear-rings that are all the rage, or drop in at "Feeling Coffee" or "Feeling Steak" for refreshment.

It is all too easy to make fun of the fractured English beloved of entrepreneurs in Asia, but it is nevertheless rewarding to glance up at the signs that festoon every building and spot delightful examples, such as "Ivy League Analytical English" and "Peter Pan Dental Clinic".

The jewel in the somewhat tarnished crown of Taipei's tourist attractions is the National Palace Museum, which houses a magnificent collection of Chinese art, archaeology and costume. An oasis of efficiently administered calm, it is set away from the hugger-mugger mess of the city proper on a spacious hillside site.

The permanent collection is so vast that only a part of it can be displayed at any one time, but there are always specialist exhibitions, whether of calligraphy over the centuries or aspects of life at the imperial court and ancient divination techniques. The museum has a small coffee bar, shops selling a wide range of slides, reproductions and books, and an impressive translation facility, which is a blessing for those of us unhandy in Mandarin.

Taipei is so nice when you are not there that you may be tempted to sign up for one of the half or full-day excursions offered by the bus companies. The one I chose took in the northern tip of Taiwan and involved a quick look at the port city of Keelung and the 72ft statue of Kuan Yin, the goddess of mercy who presides on a hill overlooking the city, but was not able to provide benign weather.

At the second stop, other brave souls leant into the teeth of the rain and wind to view rocks weathered into implausible likenesses of the head of Nefertiti and so forth. For me, lukewarm Chinese wine in a little eating house constituted a much more powerful and memorable attraction.

Chinese opera: a blend of bizarre melodies and, sometimes, fearsome spectacle called *Jing Hsi*

TRAVEL NOTES

- Cathay Pacific Airlines (01-930 8031) flies to Taiwan via Hong Kong; first class £3,315 return, Marco Polo class £1,868, Pex from £753.
- The national carrier, China Airlines, flies London-Taiwan via Amsterdam, Saudi Arabia and Thailand. It does not sell directly to the public but through consolidators such as Freedom International Travel (01-486 0564), and Hong Kong International (01-434 9067), from £620 return.
- For hotel and other travel information contact the Free Chinese Centre, 4th Floor, Dorland House, 14/16 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PH (01-930 5767).

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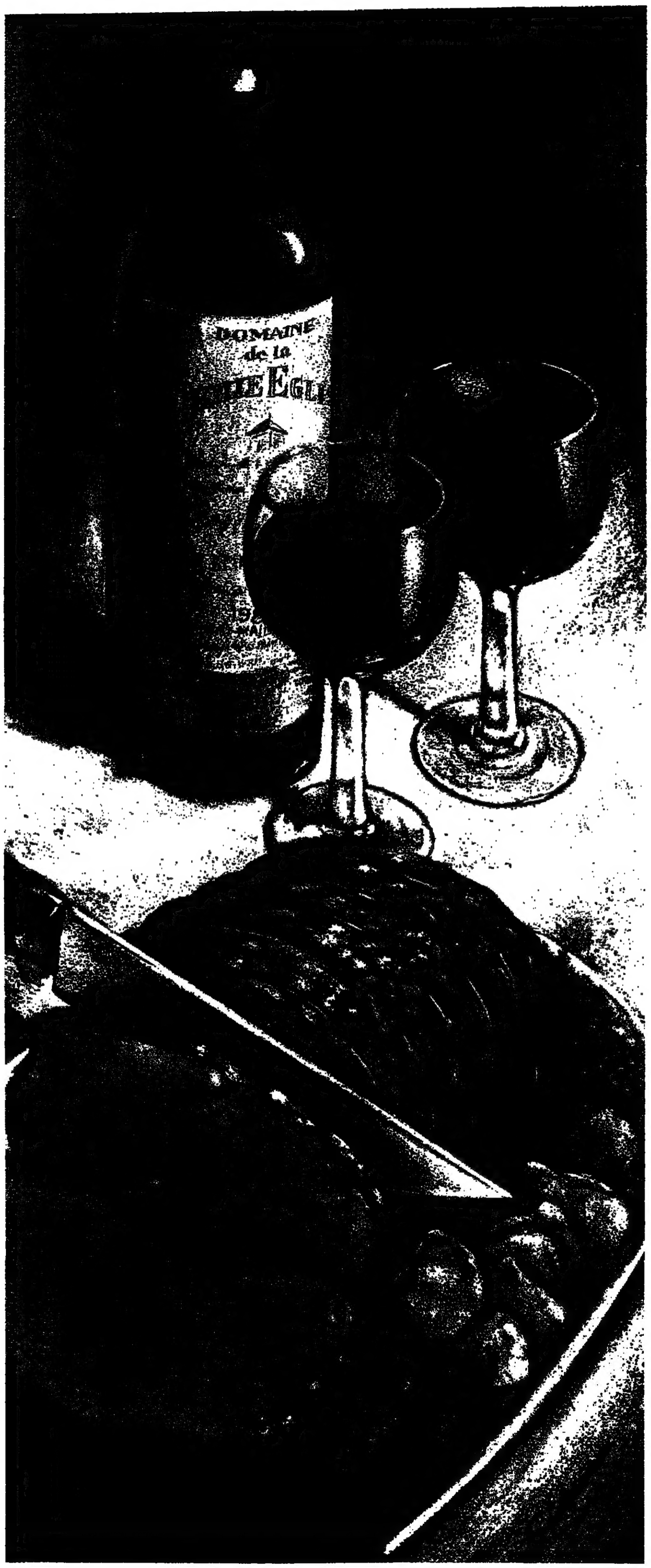

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